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7 News CITIZEN ENCANA: THE DOUBLE LIFE OF A GAS GIANT

Farmers and ranchers accuse EnCana of poisoning their drinking EDMONTON'S water, damaging their health, and riding roughshod over the western countryside. OF ALGONOUIN

13 commentary PENNY WISE AND TRANSIT **FOOLISH**

There's no excuse: for the overall good of the city, council must invest heavily in public transit.

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Filherheim Awerse St. Albert, Moorte, TSN SAS

15 city life 'TIS THE SEASON TO BE SCOTTY You don't need to be Scottish to play the bagpipes or try on a tartan at the Highland Gathering.

23 MUSIC WYCLEF DON'T PREACH

Wyclef Jean returns to his Haitian roots and tries to keep his musical messages "cool" for the kids.

Mon screen Let's PLAY THE FEUD!

Shotgun Stories' commitment to its characters' desolate lives deserves respect, if not love.

Warts where "offstage" and "onstage" HAVE NO MEANING

SEE spends a discombobulating, disorienting afternoon at the Street Performers Festival.

46 savage love kinksters at an **EXHIBITION**

Is there a name for pervy guys like me, who want a woman to watch them masturbate?

50 the back assorted goodies

Comics, crosswords, and more.



INDIAN LUST CALL **Drew Havden Taylor reveals** everything you always wanted to know about Native sexuality (but were too white to ask) in Me Sexy.



Sections news pg7 | city life pg15 | my look pg17 | resto pg19 | music pg23 | on screen pg34 | arts pg40 josey vogels pg 45 dan savage pg 46 the back pg 50 first person pg 51

THE STRAT IS A PLACE THAT KNOWS WHY PEOPLE GET DRUNK. INSTEAD OF ENDURING 'SUMMER OF '69' AND 50 BUCK! CITY LIFE, PAGE 16 'LIVIN' ON A PRAYER' FOR THE THOUSANDTH TIME WHILE TRYING UNSUCCESSFULLY TO GET LAID, YOU CAN ACTUALLY FOCUS ON YOUR DRINKING.

earn by doing

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limmy Eat World, Edmonton Event Centre, July 11

JULY

festival | sourbough RAFT RACES Booze is prohibited, but you can float on a bottle during this event as long as said bottle contains an airhorn, flashlight, a red emergency flag, and the rafters on the hottle are wearing life lackets. Terwillegar Park, 10am-9pm.

JULY 20 JULY 2

flora | HERB & FLOWER FESTIVAL No, you can't smoke the herb here, you crazy hinnies, but if you do show up with the munchies, our friends at the Devonian Botanical Gardens have the hook-up for some tasty garden treats, www.devonian.

JULY

art | MONDAY NIGHT CLUB Got a screenplay you've been working on and want to give it a dry nin? FAVA has the honic-un. Bring a script and see what vourself and a few other local actors and filmmakers can do with it. FAVA (9722-107 St 1 7-10nm

pirates | ROUGH SEA

Get "Naked on Jasper" and

become "Thick as Thieves"

on the "Rough Sea" as you

and Calendar rock out with

Crustyna and her crew of

musical nirates Naked on

Jasper, Born,

JULY 22

JULY 5

meeting | TRANS-

PORTATION AND PUBLIC

WORKS COMMITTEE Few

things are more riveting than

our city's political machine

in action. Join Edmonton's

Valley Room at City Hall for

all the nail-biting action you

can handle, 9:30am

policy works in the River

music | NICK GILDER Don't let the concrete carpeting of Sir Winston Churchill Square be in vain. Join Calendar on the giant sidewalk blocks to check out the "Hot(test) Child in the City." 8pm.

JULY 6

party | summer party TENT The Bank Ultra Lounge kicks off its 10-day outdoor party with help from DJ Hector Castro. Need more convincing? It's comforting to know you can never barf up enough draught beer at events like this. 10765 Jasper Ave. 8pm.

JULY**23**

homage | LEONARD COHEN INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL Though Cohen himself will not be in attendance, there's sure to he a stellar line-up of cover songs and film, art, and dance tributes to delight vour cultural palate, www winspearcentre.com.

thursday

JULY 10

art | ART WALK Soak in the sweet setting of the closest thing Edmonton has to the Left Bank (depending on which direction you face). Get some culture and see our city's artisans in action. www.oldstrathconafounda-

MUSIC AKON, WYCLEF

A Senegalese, a Haitian,

and a Jamaican walk into a

bar... Honestly, people, how

ran you not want to "Smack

That" on these bootylicious

numns? Revall Place 7nm

JULY24

auto racing l

FOMONTON INDV It's time

for Calendar's fun fact of the

month. Did you know that it

took 11,000 feet of concrete

to enclose Revall Speedway?

That equals 5 million pounds

of rement. Wow that was a

fun fact! Rexall Speedway.

IFAN SFAN PALII

JULY 17

friday JULY

music I JIMMY EAT WORLD

"He's got the whole world in his mouth. He's got the whole wide world in his mouth..." This isn't Bible camp, but it will be a show of biblical proportions if lim Adkins has his way. Edmonton Event Centre, 8pm.

saturday JULY 12

quest LABYRINTH WALK You won't have to battle a Minotaur or bring a length of string to find your way back like Calendar's friend Daedalus did when he huilt his labyrinth for King Minos a few years back, but we hear

it's a very therapeutic walk. 11am-2pm, Riverdale Hall.

JULY 19

safety | BIKE SAFETY INSTRUCTOR TRAINING Calendar has always maintained that kids with husted skulls are a total huzzkill and John Collier is looking for a few good souls to become bike safety trainers to make bicycling safer for children. Call (780) 433-1270.

JULY 18

MUSIC ALMOST ABBA Thou're almost ARRA and if it weren't for the "Almost," they'd be all palindrome. Regardless, they still make Calendar feel like a "Dancing Queen." Century Casino, 7pm.



Wyclef Jean, Rexall Place, July 17

CALENDAR HAS ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT KIDS WITH BUSTED SKULLS ARE A TOTAL BUZZKILL!

see magazine's two-week forecast of events in edmonton

listings: news pg 13 | city pg 21 | music pg 32 | film caps pg 38 | arts pg 44 |

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-VULCAN-AREA FARMER BARBARA GRAFF

PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS · OIL AND GAS · BY ADRIAN MORROW 13289 words

Citizen EnCana: The Double Life Of A Gas Giant



Run Off | The effects of EnCana's wells have forced the Graff family to leave their farm. PHOTO BY LAURA PEDERSEN

FARMERS AND RANCHERS SAY ENCANA IS POISONING THEIR DRINKING WATER AND RIDING ROUGHSHOD OVER THE WESTERN COUNTRYSIDE

On a rainy spring night in 2006, Darrell Graff was birthing a cow when the gas came rolling in. EnCana was venting a well. The 30-year-old farmer started to stiffen up and soon he couldn't move his legs. He shouted to his mom Barbara. From the light of her flashlight, she could tell he was having a seizure.

Her own hands stiffening, the petite, 57-year-old Barbara Graff slid through the mud, grabbed her son and loaded him into a truck. She had to drive several kilometres away from their farm before Darrell's seizure subsided.

Both Darrell and Barbara Graff are extremely sensitive to chemicals. Darrell Graff's case is so severe that emissions from natural gas wells can cause partial motor seizures; on one occasion, they nearly gave him a heart attack. The Graff's have told the natural gas companies, including EnCana, to either stop releasing

gas off their wells or at least give them enough warning so they can evacuate their farm. So far, they say they've had little success. "This is life-threatening," says Barbara Graff. "EnCana seems to think they are above the law."

The family has farmed the country near Vulcan, Alberta for five generations, and they're reluctant to leave the only community they've known, though in recent years gas development has become almost as important to the 2,000-strong town as agriculture.

The Graffs and the Vulcan area are the perfect metaphor for the two sides of EnCana Corporation. Canada's largest energy company has created jobs, brought investment, and poured money into rural communities across the Canadian Prairies and the western United States. It's also left a trail of farmers and ranchers who say the company has ruined their land, made them sick, and killed their livestock.

Formed in 2002 by a merger of two smaller companies, EnCana has used a daring business strategy to put itself at the cutting edge of the oil and gas industry. It is one of the country's most profitable corporations, with \$23 billion in revenue last year, making it the second-largest natural gas company in the world.

EnCana has made its mark everywhere it operates. This year, it plans to donate \$35 million to charities in communities from northern B.C. to Texas. In Calgary, EnCana is building a billion-dollar skyscraper whose design has garnered praise from architecture critics. When finished, the 58-storey Bow will be Canada's tallest building west of Toronto.

However, not everyone is happy with the company. Farmers have accused EnCana of contaminating their land with natural gas: The company's money helped fuel a deadly fight in the South American rainforest between peasants and a government determined to build a pipeline through a nature preserve. And two Alberta ranchers have spent over a year fighting EnCana in court for nothing more than a basic guarantee that the company won't poison their water.

EnCana is ■ symbol of the West. Independent and proud, the company has defied government control and exploded the idea that only an American or European energy company can make it internationally. For the first time, SEE tells the full story of Canada's greatest business success, and the angry people left in its wake.

BIRTH OF A PRAIRIE GIANT

Every day when he was a kid, Gwyn Morgan would get up early to feed the livestock on the family farm at Dogpound, a stretch of desolate prairie 80 kilometres northwest of Calgary. The man who would go on to lead Canada's largest oil and gas company didn't have access to running water until he was 12. The youngest of four children, his tough upbringing left him with the belief that you could achieve anything you wanted if you worked for it.

Morgan left home in his late teens to study engineering at the University of Alberta. He landed a job at Alberta Energy Corporation (AEC) in 1975.

The provincial government created AEC and handed it two key assets: a stake in the Syncrude consortium that was just starting to mine the oilsands near Fort McMurray, and the right to drill in the Suffield area north of Medicine Hat.

As the company grew, Morgan's

star rose. He set up the company's operations at Suffield and later became head of the company's oil and gas division. In 1994, the year after the province privatized the company, Morgan was promoted to CEO.

"He's a very determined, smart guy," says Dick Haskayne, a veteran oilman and former AEC board member. "He knows engineering, and he knows the oil business, but he has a broader outlook on life and is very good at making judgments on political implications... whether it's the environment or finance."

Morgan doesn't fit the stereotype of an oil baron. Slim, balding, and bespectacled, he speaks with

clear diction, eats health foods, and works out for 90 minutes a day. His hard childhood left him with a strong work ethic that made him a tough CEO. In the 1990s, he engineered a series of hostile takeovers of smaller companies, giving AEC vast reserves of natural gas in Alberta, Wyoming, and Montana, as well as a lucrative oilfield in Ecuador.

Morgan eventually set his sights on the reserves of Canadian Pacific (CP). In 1880, the federal government gave CP 100,000 square kilometres of land to build the railway, as well as the right to extract the coal and natural gas under its surface. In 2001, the government set these oil and gas resources aside as a private company called PanCanadian Energy. That October, Morgan called CP chairman David O'Brien, telling him he wanted to discuss about merging AEC and PanCanadian. At Haskayne's urging, O'Brien agreed to talk.

A few days later, he and Morgan began secretly negotiating the merger of their companies. Over the next three months, they met at CP's vacant offices and Calgary's downtown Hyatt. Haskayne recalls that Morgan kept the discussions low-key by disguising himself in jeans and carrying a backpack when he showed up at the hotel. Secrecy was crucial: if anyone found out that AEC and Pan-Canadian were negotiating a merger, the companies could have become targets for hostile takeovers.

On Sunday, January 28, Morgan and O'Brien finally made the deal public. Morgan would lead the new corporation, while O'Brien would take the honourary role of chairman. Always the patriot, Morgan named the company EnCana, a shortened version of "Energy Canada."

The new company adopted an

unconventional business strategy. Rather than look for new sources of oil and gas overseas, EnCana focused on its core business in North America. Thanks to the resources the Canadian and Alberta governments had granted PanCanadian and AEC, EnCana controlled vast gas fields in southern Alberta. Most of the conventional natural gas was already tapped out. The company, however, realized that with the right technology, it could extract gas from the rocks around the depleted gas deposits. The technology is called hydrolic fracturing, or "fracing" (pronounced "fracking"). It entails shooting highpressure gas or water into the ground to smash open the rock and release the gas. The technology worked, and soon old fields were once again producing massive quantities of gas.

Meanwhile, the company's investment in Ecuador was causing it headaches. It purchased the largest share in a project to build an 800-kilometre-long pipeline project intended to transport crude oil from the company's wells in Ecuador's eastern jungle to the sea. The pipe was routed through a nature preserve and faced opposition from farmers and villagers along the way.

On one occasion, residents of El Reventador, a village on the route of the pipeline, barricaded roads outside of town with flaming tires. After police moved in and two protestors were killed, the blockade was lifted.

In 2005, Morgan sold off EnCana's holdings in Ecuador to a consortium of Chinese companies as part of his strategy of divesting the company of conventional oil and gas to focus on fracing natural gas wells in North America. The daring strategy, which some of Morgan's fellow CEOs had doubted, was paying huge dividends. The company's profits had jumped more than 65 per cent in a single year to \$5 billion.

In October of 2005, Morgan retired as CEO and turned over the job to his second-in-command, Randy Eresman. Like Morgan, the Medicine Hat-born Eresman started with the company as an engineer and worked his way up. He was a key organizer during the merger, integrating the company's engineering operations and auditing PanCanadian's assets.

In December 2005, Morgan gave the most famous speech of his career. At a meeting of the Fraser Institute, a conservative think-tank, the Canadian patriot laid out his vi-

ENCANA cont'd pg. 8



Flaming Water | Jessica Ernst has so much natural gas in her well water she can light it on fire. PHOTO BY WILL ANDRUSCHAK

ENCANA (cont'd from pg. 7)

sion for the country. He expounded on the merits of lower taxes, a privatized healthcare system and a do-ityourself attitude.

"The success of any society is dependent upon those who try harder achieving better rewards than those who don't," he told his audience. Morgan was living proof of his own ideology. If a farm boy from Dogpound could rise to become one of the country's most powerful CEOs, couldn't anyone?

FROM ROSEBUD TO RIFLE

The village of Rosebud sits among poplar trees in a lush valley, an oasis on the endless plains east of Calgary. Best known for its performing arts college and brightly painted frontier buildings, the community of 100 people is surrounded by EnCana's wells, and the loud, buzzing noise of well maintenance is a common sound.

Jessica Ernst lives on an acreage a five-minute walk from town. In 2005, Ernst noticed something was happening to the water from her well. At first, her dogs wouldn't drink it. Then, she saw it was fizzing as if it were carbonated. In December, she couldn't turn her taps off: there was so much gas in her water, it raised the pressure and forced its way through her pipes. She also discovered she could light it on fire. "It still scares me," she says. "You never know what the water is going to do."

Tests on her water revealed high levels of methane, ethane and sev-

eral other fossil fuels. It also showed signs of heavy hydrocarbons, like the ones used in drilling fluids. Three other area wells have shown high levels of gas. At least two studies have shown that when a well is fraced, the pressure can break through the bedrock and leak natural gas into the groundwater. Drilling fluids can also contain trace amounts of chemicals, ranging from diesel to ammonium. Three more wells in the area also turned out to be contaminated with natural gas.

Like Morgan, the 50-year-old Ernst has a tough personality that puts her at home among the independent-minded farmers and ranchers of Alberta. When her water went bad, she refused to keep quiet. However, there wasn't much she could do.

Landowners only own the surface of their land. Everything underneath-minerals, oil, and natural gas-belongs to the province, which can sell it to private companies. When a company wants to drill a well to access the gas, it has to make a deal with the landowner to lease part of their land to build the well on. If they can't reach an agreement, the company can take the landowner to the Surface Rights Board (SRB) or the Energy Resources Conservation Board (ERCB), two quasi-judicial provincial bodies. Once a hearing into the case has been conducted, they can order the landowner to let the company in, or order the company to fulfill certain conditions before

EnCana denies that its fracing con-

taminated Rosebud's water supply. Earlier this year, a provincial report on Ernst's well concluded that the gas in the well was naturally occurring and had nothing to do with the company.

Ernst has doubts. A test by University of Alberta water expert Karlis Muehlenbachs showed strong similarities between the gas in Ernst's well and the gas EnCana was pumping out of the ground nearby.

Two hundred kilometres away, Shawn and Ronalie Campbell have similar problems. In the summer of 2005, one of the Campbells' water wells went dry. When they replaced it with a new well, the water bubbled and spurted out of the tap. Testing indicated the presence of natural gas in the water supply: methane, ethane, propane and iso-butane.

Jeff Locker and Louis Meeks, farmers near Pavilion. Wyoming, have seen their water go bad in the wake of EnCana fracing in the area. Locker's water even turned black. In 2004, he says EnCana paid him \$21,000 (U.S.) in exchange for agreeing not to talk about what had happened. The following year, EnCana drilled another well to the west of his place and his water turned black again, so he decided to break his

Further south, in the area around Rifle, Colorado, EnCana leaked natural gas and benzene, a carcinogenic chemical, into a creek, and paid a \$371,200 fine in 2004.

Laura Amos, a farmer in the Rifle area, became sick with a rare adrenal gland tumor in 2003 after EnCana fraced wells in the area. One of the drilling chemicals the company's contractor might have used, 2-BE, has been linked to adrenal gland tumors. Chris Mobaldi had two tumors on her pituitary gland, something she alleges could be linked to air and water pollution from EnCana's gas activity. The company, however, denies responsibility. It says its contractors never used 2-BE in their fracing operations.

Barbara and Darrell Graff, the mother and son who farm near Vulcan, first noticed their chemical sensitivity in 1998 when Darrell Graff nearly collapsed in his field during a well flaring by a different company. The Graffs told EnCana about their condition and asked that the company inform them when they were planning to flare so the family could evacuate. "When they initially came into this clean area, we gave them our medical evidence," Barbara Graff says. "Very seldom have they given us notice. I can't understand this." They say the farm has also lost several cows since the gas activity came to the area. (EnCana insists the company's operations in the area have no negative impact on the Graffs.)

At first glance, Darrell Graff seems like a typical Alberta farmer, with a deep tan, a rugged brown beard, and

a friendly demeanour. However, his symptoms are so bad, he walks with a cane, and he's unable to perform most of the tasks he could before he became sick. Virtually all he can do is tend the cows.

Kaye Kilburn, a Los Angeles-based neurologist who has examined the Graffs, believes poisoning from hydrogen sulfide gas is to blame for Barbara and Darrell Graff's condition. He says the substance is harmful in as small a concentration as one part per million, and argues it is worse than chlorine or the nerve gases used in the First World War, "If it doesn't kill you, it produces brain damage," he says. "It's a first-class poison."

A NEW TYPE OF COMPANY

The gate springs open and a cowboy gallops into the ring. Ahead of him, a lean, brown bull runs just a few steps in front of the horse. As he catches up, the cowboy dives off his mount and grabs the steer's horns in his hands. He twists the animal's head to the side and drags it down to the brown dirt of the arena floor, then pulls its body around until the bull is lying on its back, its legs in the air.

This is Canada Day in Ponoka. A good chunk of the town's 6,000 people have crammed into the bleachers to watch the rodeo finals. The sun is baking the cowboys sitting on their horses and waiting for their turn to wrestle steers in the ring, kids meander through the stands selling drinks, and fertile green hills dotted with crops stretch beyond the arena.

Agriculture, of course, isn't the only game in town. Oil and gas are just as important to this area's economy, and the industry has made its presence known. EnCana's black, white, and green signs line the side of the arena. An EnCana banner hangs overtop the gate at one end of the ring. When the announcer takes a break from the rodeo to thank the event's sponsors, a blonde girl on a grey horse gallops past the spectators, waving an EnCana flag.

Ronalie and Shawn Campbell, farmers whose water well was contaminated with natural gas, have come to town for the show After years of trying to hold gas companies accountable, they've won a crucial court battle with EnCana that could change the way the company oper-

It started in February 2006, when EnCana took over a gas well on the Campbells' land from another company. They asked EnCana to sign a lease with several protections: among others, the company would insulate the well to stop gas from travelling through the ground and contaminating the drinking water, and monitor the water for contamination. The company refused.

In July 2007, EnCana took the matter to the SRB, hoping to be granted the right to frac without fulfilling the

conditions in the lease. At a hearing in Ponoka, company lawyers questioned the Campbells for three hours. "We were cross-examined on everything under the sun," says Ronalic Campbell. "They were asking, "What was the basis for the water testing?" Shawn Campbell felt pummeled by EnCana's questioning, and thought they didn't stand a chance.

In November 2007, the SRB issued a ruling. To the Campbells' surprise, they won. EnCana would have the right to use the well, but only if the company followed the conditions in the lease. However, the company wasn't ready to give in. It appealed the decision to the Court of Queen's Bench, and the case went to trial April 9 in Edmonton. Again, the judge ruled in the Campbells' favour. For the first time in Alberta, a court required EnCana to protect a farmer's groundwater.

The company itself is experiencing a flurry of activity these days. On May II, it announced it would split in two. Its natural gas holdings, which represent roughly two-thirds of the company's assets, will become one company led by EnCana CEO Randy Eresman. The company's oilsands projects will form a second, smaller company. The plan is to allow each of the company's two divisions to focus on its own operations.

The company, some observers say, is moving in the right direction: the split will make the company more efficient and more attractive to investors. It is also making strides in some of its attempts to be more environmentally and socially conscious. In response to public concern over flaring, for instance, EnCana drastically cut its use of the practice. "They've really created a new type of company, sensitive to stakeholders," says Keith Brownsey, a professor at Calgary's Mount Royal College. "Much of the industry has taken their lead from EnCana."

Not everyone agrees, however. Darrell and Barbara Graff's health problems are so bad, they had to evacuate their home last week to avoid the gas. As of press time, they are living it their van. Larry is less affected than his son and his wife, and is trying to maintain their farm as best he can Fighting a company that employs st many people in a small communit isn't easy, and fellow landowners are reluctant to speak up. As he points out the well that he believes is re sponsible for forcing his family from their land, a group of coverall-clad men gather on the platform and start back at him across a sweet-smelling yellow field of canola.

The view is not unlike the land scape at Dogpound, where the most successful man in Canada's energy industry once eked out a living Mountains stand in the west, greefields of barley and hay meet the dusty prairie sky at the curve of the earth, and heat waves rise like gefrom the ground.



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Oilsands Across The Nation



Local Concerns Get National Audience | Lindsay Telfer at the Canadian Youth Climate Change summit at the U of A

"THE OILSANDS ARE KNOCKING ON YOUR DOOR," SPEAKER WARNS CANADIAN YOUTH AT GLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT

Talking about solutions to the oilands frustrates George Poitras, a former chief of the Fort Chipewyan Mikisew Cree First Nations and a vocal advocate for halting oilsands development in Fort McMurray.

"Our people are dying and you want to talk about green jobs or whatever?" he said. "To me, we have a very critical situation. Let's deal with that first. Let's resuscitate our land and our people first."

He's talking about preparing for conferences, such as the one where he made his comments, the Canadian Youth Climate Change (CYCC) annual summit, which took place from July 4-6 at the University of Alberta. The CYCC is an Ottawabased coalition of student unions, environmental and indigenous groups determined to make climate change a high priority for government and industry. The conference drew 150 youths, about half of them from across Canada and half from Alberta.

During a panel discussion on the spinoff environmental consequences of the oilsands, Poitras told the assembled group about the high rates of tare cancers in Fort Chipewyan and the link between those illnesses and contaminated water downstream from Fort McMurray.

Lindsay Telfer, director of the Sierra Club's prairie chapter, joined Poitras on the panel and discussed how the oilsands are making an impact on communities all across Canada, not just in Alberta. She pointed out that oil refineries are planned in Samia, Ontario. Workers are being brought in from the Maritimes and oil tankers are sailing off the British Columbia coast. "The tarsands are knocking on your doors as well," Telfer said. "The tarsands are dictating Canada's and Alberta's climate change policies."

From the cheers she received dur-

ing her opening remarks, she was preaching to a crowd of converted environmentalists.

On the local front, the national audience heard Bill Sears' story about a coal-gasification project in the Tofield area, southeast of Edmonton. The farmer is a member of the Voice Of Community And Land Society (VO-CAL), a landowners' group fighting the development.

The mine will supply the oilsands with the fuel that industry needs to extract bitumen from the sands. Sears and his fellow landowners are under pressure to sell their land. If they don't, Sears says they could be forced off the land for years while mining takes place, destroying their homes and farms in the process

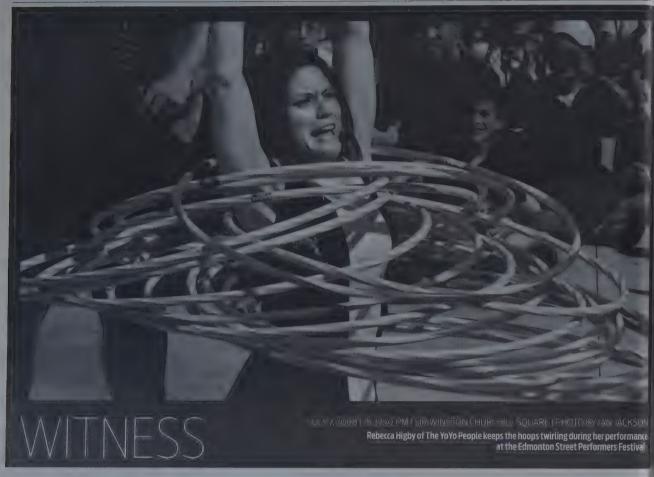
Ernie Hui, the assistant to the deputy minister of Alberta Environment, was also in attendance and fielded several questions around what environmental policies the government had in place. He pointed to consultation groups that represent local residents, environmentalists and industry, such as the Cumulative Effects Management Association (CEMA), as ways the Alberta government is working to ensure good environmental stewardship. He also talked about water quality and greenhouse gas emission targets and the recently announced land-use policy to address growth pressures

However, both Telfer and Poitras rebuffed his claims on multi-stake-holder discussions, saying those groups are dominated by industry, which is why both environmental and First Nations groups have either left CEMA or stayed away from it altogether. Telfer added that the landuse policy received at best a tepid resource for received at best a tepid resource for received and services and the services of the servic

Even given his frustration, Poitras said he was happy to be at the conference and talk about how his local problems relate to the wider world. "It's not just a Fort Chip problem," he said. "It's become a global problem and worthy of a moment of hesitation."



-FRIENDS OF MEDICARE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DAVID EGGEN, ON THE NEW HEALTH SUPERBOAI



OUR COMMENT ON THIS WEEK'S NEWS

EDMONTON IMAGE OUR (ANNOYING) SMALL-TOWN CHARM

Mayor Stephen Mandel wants to promote Edmonton more as the capital of Alberta, and masking Premier Ed Stelmach to help him out.

It's true that most people outside the province don't know that this is the capital of Alberta, and Mandel's right to try to correct that.

He also wants to kick panhandlers off the streets and is reluctant to fund late-night transit service.

But Edmonton can't be both a small town with no one on the streets after 9 p.m. and a major centre of politics, culture, and industry. Cities that are recognized in the rest of Canada require a certain level of maturity and excitement to attach the kinds of people that contribute to the city's reputation.

Good public transit is a necessary amenity and panhandlers an unfortunate reality in bigger cities. Edmonton can't have it both ways.

ALBERTA · HEALTHCARE RATIONALIZING THE HEALTH SUPERBOARD

Ken Hughes, the interim chair of Alberta Health Services (the new health "superboard") says the reorganization of the province's healthcare system is about providing the same service for all Albertans. And how can you argue with that? Everyone wants fairness. But the pill is also hard to swallow, because the provincial government doesn't have a good handle on how the healthcare system was performing before the switch.

When Bill-Moore Kilgannon, executive director of Public Interest Alberta, made a request to Alberta Health for the total number of long-term care beds in the province before the election, he says the department told him they didn't know, and to ask the health regions. That might have been a communications tactic, but the province didn't offer reams of research either. It's far more likely that the Tories wanted to rein in regional debt and prevent senior health officials from speaking up about underfunding.

ALBERTA · IMAGE THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR PANDERING

How many cowboy hats or boots do you see on city streets in Alberta?

When this SEE staffer moved west, she made a habit of counting the rural accessories as a joke, and found surprisingly few. (She then moved on to noticing the big city problems of homelessness, drugs, and poor urban planning.)

So when Stephane Dion visited the Calgary Stampede last week and then headed to Edmonton for a youth climate change conference, it was severely disappointing to see media photos of him dressed in jeans, boots, and, yes, a cowboy hat.

Politicians dressing like a cowboy in Alberta are part of a long tradition (check out *The Globe and Mail's* photo gallery of Stampede outfits, if only for the evil looking one of Stephen Harper) but it still feels like pandering, not to mention promoting an ill-conceived and outdated image of our province to the rest of Canada.

BY THE NUMBERS

COMFORTING THE UPPER HALF
REQUIRED INCOME FOR HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM VERSUS MEDIAN EDMONTON INCOM
*SOURCE: CITY OF EDMONTON AND STATISTICS CANADA
**CONTROL OF THE PROGRAM VERSUS MEDIAN EDMONTON AND STATISTICS CANADA
**CONTROL OF THE PROGRAM VERSUS MEDIAN EDMONTON AND STATISTICS CANADA



Penny Wise And Transit Foolish

NEXLE EVERYWHERE EXILE
THERE'S NO EXCUSE: FOR
THE OVERALL GOOD OF THE
CITY, COUNCIL MUST INVEST
HEAVILY IN PUBLIC TRANSIT

It is time to dispense with the strange math that attacks the minds of otherwise sensible Edmontonians when it comes to public transit.

City Council members who approved spending over a quarter of a billion dollars on a single interchange are still not certain they want to spend an equivalent amount on 338 new buses and a few related facilities necessary to minimally enhance the less than mediocre level of transit service in this city.

The idea that public transit is a taxpayer burden must be quashed once and for all if Edmonton is ever to be taken seriously as a major city. We must part forever with the expectation that transit fares pay the bulk of the cost of a ride, a notion based on misplaced concern for the non-transit-using public. There is no reason that "user pay" should be the guiding principle of transit budget deliberations, especially not when the same logic is not applied to the much higher and more environmentally damaging infrastructure costs generated by private vehicle owners.

We have no toll roads in Edmonton and no plans to introduce them, despite the record spending currently planned for city roads that are used primarily by private and commercial vehicles. At the same time, we expect transit users—whose choice to take transit reduces the wear on roads and the strain on our environment—to pay ever-higher rates for the privilege of insanely slow commutes, when service is available at all

I can't believe Mayor Stephen Mandel is balking at the estimated \$9 million price tag for a reduced nighttime transit schedule. Even minimal nighttime service would benefit not only those working late at night but those of us currently forced to share the roads with the not-inconsiderable number of intoxicated drivers who can't or won't get a cab home.

The security concerns raised by transit drivers regarding night service are understandable, but Toronto and Vancouver have much more scheduled to open in 2010, will bring Edmonton's system to just under 20 kilometres of track, an embarrassment for a system that has been in place for 30 years. The next step, a small spur from downtown to NAIT. replicates a number of existing bus routes, meaning a slightly faster commute but no improvement in the reach of the city's transit system.

Meanwhile, Calgary's LRT trains travel to the far corners of that city on 45 kilometres of track, and will add close to 15 more within the next four years. And in case anyone in our City Hall needs reminding, Calgary's LRT started out three years later than ours. If the champions of free enterprise to our south can justify serious investment in public transportation, I don't see how we can fail to do the same. (Don't even get me started on bike lanes, where the rabid capitalists also have us beat.)

If the expected \$2 per litre gas prices really do change the way we move, and there are signs that this is already happening at a much lower prices, Edmonton needs to be ready for that behavioural shift. Good luck finding the necessary political will at City Hall.

inexileeverywhere@gmail.com

ACTIVISM

ACTIVIST AGENDA An online newsletter resource for activism related events in Edmonton, with up-to-date information on sustainable practices, networking, and active organizations in the cry. Supplied and maintained by Earth's Seneral Store (10832-82 Ave. upstains, 439-8725). Go to www.egs.ca. inflo also available in-store. BIKE WORK'S Fix your own blue Hours van by season, call

ahead: 433-2453 Info: www.edmontonbikes.ta.

COUNCIL OF CANADIANS 3RD WED EVERY MONTH Independent public interest organization promoting economic
justice, democracy, and asserting Canadian sovereignty.
Info: x202.4501

EDMONTON 9/11 TRUTH An organization for Canadian citizens questioning the events of 9/11. For news, links, and local events go to www.edmonton911truth.com.

GREENPEACE ALBERTA Working and recruiting active people to help put an end to one of the world's most destructive projects: the Alberta Tar Sands. Info: mhudema@greenpeace.org.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD 2ND THU EVERY MONTH? 7PM. RNA-24. PHANANTIES BUILDING, OUR A CAM-PUS. Meetings open to the public info: edemotion, bwick, and ADELEINE SANAM FOUNDATION 3RD 8-47H SAT EVERY MONTH, 9 AM-5 PM. FACULTÉ SANT-HEAN. 8406-91 ST. RM. 3-HB Organization for the emanopation and autonomy of African women, providing programs on economy, commity health, training in HIV-AUDS prevention, treatment, and harm reduction. Instruction in French. English, and African languages. Admission free for members, membership 510. Intin. 4907-3732.

PEACE AMBASSADORS INITIATIVE MON, 5-7 PM.
EDUCATION NORTH 4-104. U OF A CAMPUS A youth group
promoting anti-racist and diversity workshops, Info: 425-

SIERRA CLUB OF CANADA Prairie (hapter works with ecologically and socially conscious individuals to build strong grassroots movement in the Prairies. Info: www.sierraclub.ca/prairie.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVIE NIGHT 4TH FRI EVERY MONTH 7 PM. UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON. MAIN HALL, 10804-119 ST. SS donation or PWYC in the door Screenings followed by group discussion. Info. nit.edmonton@gmail.com.

THOUGHTFUL TUESDAY FILM SERIES EVERY TUES, 7PM. STEEPS TEH LOUNGE Film showing and discussion afterwards. May "Facilism (1)" evalues how humanity has arrived at this moment, how we live, impact the earth's ecosystems and what we cand oil in thinge our rourse. Into 988-9105 or kalman@interbouncom.

WE COULD RUN NIGHT BUSES IN THIS CITY FOR A QUARTER OF A CENTURY AND STILL NOT FORK OUT AS MUCH AS WE WILL FOR THE 23RD AVENUE INTERCHANGE.

And service is not always available, as shift-workers and those whose work sites fall in transit dead zones will tell you. In my own case, although I live close to major city artery and work in a building only metres away from another, it would take me close to two hours to make the journey in one direction, and this would include walking several blocks. By car, the entire commute takes me about 20 minutes.

serious crime problems and still maintain night buses. Edmonton could manage it as well. And to put the cost in perspective, we could run night buses in this city for a quarter of a century and still not fork out as much as we will for the 23rd Avenue interchange.

Granted, the city is finally making progress on LRT expansion, but even here movement is tentative and unimaginative. The south leg.



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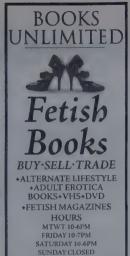
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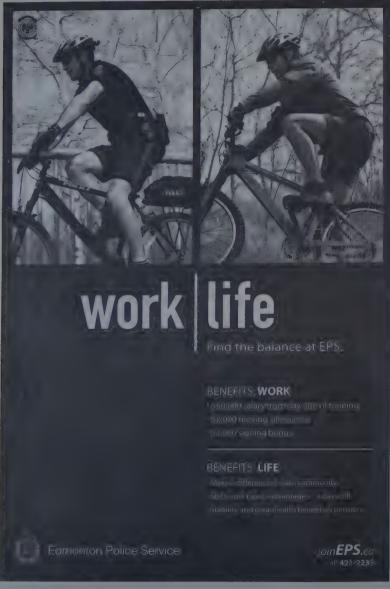
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CALL TO ARTISTS FIRE STATION NO. 5

The Edmonton Arts Council, on behalf of the City of Edmonton, invites all Canadian and international artists to submit proposals for a public artwork at Fire Station No. 5. This open competition is held in accordance with the City of Edmonton policy "Percent for Art to Provide and Encourage Art in Public Areas" (C458B).

Budget: \$60,000 (maximum, all inclusive)
Deadline for Submissions: 4:30 PM Friday, August 8, 2008
Installation: Summer 2009

An information package, including an entry form and terms of the competition, can be downloaded from our website at

www.edmontonarts.ab.ca/publicart

For more information, contact the Edmonton Arts Council.



EDMONTON ARTS COUNCIL

808, 10310 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5J 2W4 780-424-2787

www.edmontonarts.ab.ca/publicart



-JAN ARCHIBOLD

EVENT PREVIEW · SUMMER GAMES · BY CHRIS LEWIS | 841 words

Tis The Season To Be Scotty



What's Up, Laddie? | Plenty of pipers and drummers in Edmonton's bands aren't of Scottish descent at all—and they still love | Scotland the Brave | PHOTO SuPPLIES

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE SCOTTISH TO PLAY THE BAGPIPES OR TRY ON A TARTAN AT THE HIGHLAND GATHERING

FORT EDMONTON HIGHLAND GATHERING May 12. Fort Edmonton Park (6601-148 St). Orders. \$13.25 at the gate. Info: www.aspb.ca.

Nothing makes you feel more Cana-

dian than not being in Canada.
"Where are you from?" someone acks. "Canada," you say. You drop it like it's no big deal and wait for them to start asking questions like "What is a uniquely Canadian meal?" ("Poutine!" I replied to some curious Germans most of whom recoiled after I explained exactly what it was.) All of a sudden, your international novelty has turned you into an culturally angst-ridden teenager, perpetually asking yourself, "Who am I,

No other nation, with the possible exception of the Former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, has such an dentity crisis. The term "cultural mosaic" tossed around by so many elementary school teachers will have to do, like it or not, until we can come by with something that defines us better than a plate of fries covered in

gravy and cheese

Then again, what's to complain about? Any night of the week in £d-monton you can play Pin the Tail on the World Map and eat at a restaurant of that nationality. Try it. Ethiopian! Icelandic! Scottish!

Hmmm. Hang on. No Scottish restaurants here—but with a summer full of Highland Games all over Alberta, the Scots have a lot more going on in Edmonton than the Icelanders. This Saturday, Fort Edmonton Park is hosting its 20th Annual Highland Gathering, a full day of competitive bagpiping, drumming, Highland dancing, and sports events. (TV news crews, take note: there will be caber tossing and hammer throwing.) Plus, a chance to try the most notorious item of Scot cursine: haggis.

"It's actually quite tasty," Jan Archibold, Edmonton Attractions spokeswoman assures me. "[Haggis] doesn't look all that good—you might not want to look at it—but I did find it quite tasty. Spicy. And, of course, the pub in the Hotel Selkirk is open for those who would enjoy a wee pint."

But if spicy food isn't your thing (or loud, blaring band instruments for that matter) the Gathering also offers bannock bread, a debate about Scottish literature, a Scottish singing troupe, a Scottish market, an exhibit on the development of curling, an old Canadian poster campaign encouraging Scots to come to Canada, and strangely enough, a magic lantern show of hand-painted glass slides. And it's not just for tartan-wearers either.

"Of course there's a huge number of people who come of Scottish ancestry," says Archibold, "but i also see people of all different cultural backgrounds come down because basically it's a fun event. Where else do

president of the Alberta Society of Pipers and Drummers Just look at cities like Fort MacLeod, Fort Mac-Kay, or Calgary (which is Gaelic for "clear water") for evidence of the historic role the Scottish played in settling Alberta.

The province's first Scottish cultural group, the St. Andrew's Society, was formed in 1870, followed by the Caledonia Society in 1904, only to join together in 1938 and ultimately incorporate as the Edmonton Scottish Society in 1949. "It's like any other ethnic centre in Edmonton, like the Polish Hall, the

of young, anyway

"The people that are the backbone of the [Edmonton Scottish] Society are getting on in years," says Valeta Roach, a former Highland dance to owns Scottish Imports on Whyte Ave, "and they're not getting a lot of new, young people involved—and by new and young I mean the 40-year olds. I try to encourage people to get involved in the Scottish society There's an awful lot of pipers and drummers out there who are really good, who don't have any-or very little—Scottish heritage, but they just enjoy the music and the in-

JUST LOOK AT CITIES LIKE FORT MACLEOD, FORT MACKAY, OR CALGARY (WHICH IS GAELIC FOR "CLEAR WATER") FOR EVIDENCE OF THE HISTORIC ROLE THE SCOTTISH PLAYED IN SETTLING ALBERTA.

you get to see someone throw what appears to be a telephone pole?"

Compared with the historical presence of the Scots in Alberta, the Fort Edmonton Highland Gathering is relatively young.

"If you take a look at some of the place names and the names in the phone book, Scottish people have been here since the earliest explorers," says Paul McCormick, onetime Italian Centre, Orange Hall—all of them are groups of people that have immigrated here and brought a bit of their home culture with them," says McCormick, who sells Scottish knick-knacks at various Highland Games throughout Alberta. Despite the explosion of Highland Games in Alberta in the past 20 years, the Scottish community is always looking for more young blood. Well. sort.

struments they're playing—and it's a good thine!"

Non-Scottish pipers? I suppose non-Japanese people know judo, and non-West Africans can play the djembe. Maybe Canada can borrow the Scottish identity for a while until we develop a unique one of our own. If we can stomach poutine, surely we can get used to haggis as well.

A Wee Dram, A Hearty Pint

AS YOU WATCH THE CABER-TOSSING AT THE HIGHLAND GAMES, TOSS BACK SOME PROPER SCOTTISH BOOZE

The Scots know how to make booze. This assertion is founded in their centuries-long history of distillation, as well as their recent successes in the field of brewing. Though Scotch is without a doubt their most celebrated product, the Scots have also dabbled in other spirits and beer, with success at every turn.

The name "whisky" comes from the Gaelic "uisgebeatha," meaning "water of life," referring to the drink's supposed healing properties. (Feeling warm in a frigid 17th-century Scottish winter must have seemed miraculous enough.)

Scottish whisky comes in two basic forms: single malt and blended. Single malts are made only from malted barley at a single distillery. Blended Scotch occated by mixing a variety of different whiskies, and these can be made from a variety of grains. Blended whisky is usually cheaper and can be pretty rough, though good quality versions do exist—blending is an art that, once mastered, offers its own rewards. In comparison, single malt Scotch is a premium product and is usually much more refined.

The word "malt" in the name "single malt" signifies the malting process in which the barley is soaked in water and allowed to germinate, thereby converting the grain's starch into sugar—the fuel for fermentation. Once the grains have sprouted they are dried in a kiln, and this is where peat comes into play. Peat is decomposed plant matter found in the many swamps and bogs of Scot-

land; once dried it can be used for fuel. Many distilleries use peat fires to dry their malted barley, imbuing the grains with "peatiness," a quality including aromas and flavours of smoke, bacon fat, and leather moccasins. Some distilleries forgo this process to make a lighter, more delicate whisky.

Single malt also gets its flavour from the oak barrels in which it ages—for at least three years, but usually longer. Since new oak barrels would confer too much tannin and result in an astringent taste, older barrels are employed. Both sherry and bourbon casks are traditionally

"WHISKY" COMES FROM THE GAELIC "UISGEBEATHA," MEANING "WATER OF LIFE."

used, though recent years have seen an explosion of experimentation with finishing single malts in other types of barrels: you can find whisky aged in former port, red wine, Sauternes, and rum barrels, each imparting # different character to the

Some good whiskies to look for are Lagavulin, Ardbeg, and Laphroaig if you favour the peaty style; Oban, Springbank, and Aberlour for a middle-of-the-road dram: and Glengoyne, Glenfarclas, and Auchentoshan for something lighter and

The Scots' distilling expertise doesn't end at whisky. I have recently encountered two excellent gins made by Scottish distillers—and seriously, these put anything coming

out of London to shame. The first is Hendricks gin, made by whisky experts William Grant and Sons. It is very unique, with intriguing flavours of cucumber and rose petals. Don't dilute this one with tonic water and citrus juice—it's best on the rocks or as a dry martini. Cadenhead, another famous Scotch producer, makes the second of these delicious gins, called Old Raj. This gin has a unique colour: an intriguing greenish-yellow that comes from the addition of saffron. With an alcohol content of 55 per cent, Old Raj is meant to be enjoyed like fine single malt, sipped slowly in a proper glass.

The Scots have also dipped their hands into brewing, with some very interesting results. Innis & Gunn, by far the most successful Scottish brew to date, has taken the beerdrinking world by storm. It comes as little surprise that whisky forms the cornerstone for this brew, which combines the best of both Scotch and beer; it's aged in old whisky barrels, imbuing it with rich peat and citrus aromas. The palate has lots of vanilla from the oak offset by crisp yet earthy hops. It is, arguably, the best marriage of Scotch and beer.

Another interesting, uniquely Scottish brew is the Fraoch Heather Ale, a modern interpretation of beer that was brewed centuries ago by the Picts (the ancient people of Scotland). The recipe uses heather instead of hops, resulting in an extremely floral brew, almost to the point of being overpowering. (Grandma's hand soap comes to mind.) Still, it's something worth trying, providing yet another example of Scottish hooze incenuity.

50 RUCK - BY CODY CIVIERO | 508 WORDS

Forget Happy Hour!

THIS WEEK'S 50 BUCKER
SPENDS THE DAY GETTING
LIQUORED UP IN OLD
STRATHGONA

As the costs for basic necessities continue to inflate, the occasional surplus of lucky mad money—like the \$50 I found on the ground last week—needs to be spent right

\$0: Bike Ride in the River Valley

It would be a crime not to take advantage of the largest stretch of urban parkland in North America during this city's painfully brief period of sunshine before it all reverts back to a frozen hellhole. The burnt calories and green-friendly transportation more than make up for any ensuing indulgence in "socially irresponsible chocolate cake."

\$11: Lunch at Remedy Café

Remedy is a fixture in this column, and for obvious reasons. It's hard not to love a nice bohemian joint that serves dishes with delicious pseudo-pretentious—names [-] like "black power forest cake" and "multiple orgasm flan." With funky décor, a lived-in feel, blackboard menus, and paintings by local artists adorning the red and orange walls, the place's charm is irresistible. Sink into a comfy chair, relax, have a drink, and listen to "Time Warp" crackle out of the speakers.

\$10: TheatreSports at the

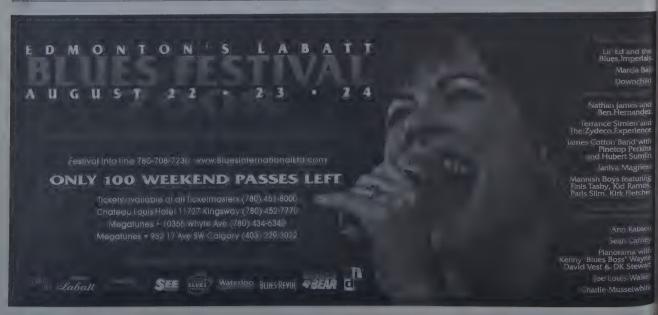
Rapid Fire Theatre combines the perceived cultural sophistication of live performance with the hilarity of a Verne Troyer sex tape, and all fe \$10-you just can't beat that. The bulk of the material is laugh one loud hilarious, and even on the ratio occasion a skit falls flat, the ensurant wardness still amuses. The augence interaction keeps you on you toes, and grants you a smug sens of self-satisfaction that comes was knowing that you contributed to well-executed skit.

\$24: "Beer" at The Strat

Although TheatreSports ends lab the Strathcona Hotel is open for another hour-enough time to he over and get some quick binge drink ing in. The Strat is a place that know why people get drunk. Instead of e during "Summer of '69" and "Livion a Prayer" for the thousandi time while trying unsuccessfully get laid, you can actually focus dicts hunch over the VLTs and show obscenities while some interesting characters snort lines in the ball room, providing ample entertain ment to supplement the cheaper beer in the city. While some mis call it "seedy," I prefer to say it's

\$5: Pizza at Steel Wheels

This pizzeria is the definitive possers stop. Located within stumble distance of Whyte, it offers a friend atmosphere with maraiety of pizzeria, and toppings. One rule it must be followed (and I cannot strathis enough): go there after getti liquored up, rather than the other way around. Eating the pizza sold drastically diminishes the expense.





aura Bdria | Winner, SEE Summer Fashion Contest Y MICHAEL TRAVERS

Ay Look: Uh, right now i'm sweaty.

Hair: I do it myself. I just cut it with sewing scissors.

/earing: My shoes are from Value Village but I drew on them myself. The skirt is also from alue Village. My tank top is from American Apparel. This necklace is from a website i run ed maasaimarket.vstore.ca—it's all Kenyan jewelry that's bought for a fair price. And the

into: It sounds tacky, but I love volunteering. One of the places I volunteer at is the Boyle Mcauley clinic, and what I do there is take care of people's feet, so I wash their feet and trim their alls and things like that, which is gross [laughs], but it's nice—it's relaxing to do.

Nant to be in My Look? Send your photo to style@see.greatwest.ca.







15minutes

Kelsey Arndt & Heather Daam | Twee Jewelry Designers PHOTO BY MERYL SMITH LAWTON

Q&As WITH EDMONTONIANS BY CHRIS LEWIS

How did your operation get started?

We do it out of our house or out of Kelsey's basement. We started in my parents' basement and just kind of thought. "You know, we could really start doing something with this." And then we went out and bought some power tools—which was probably the best thing we ever cid. Kelsey's dad helped set it up. He helped us get a big dust collector and a sander, so we have two belt sanders, a drum press, and a bandsaw

Is the wood just scrap? Or is it really nice stuff?

A bit of both. When I was doing industrial design, I would collect hardwood. I didn't know what I would do with it, but I knew it was valuable. So when we got the power tools it kind of fit. So we've been using some scrap wood and picking some other stuff up from around the city. We get it from all over the place.

Where do you get your ideas from?

We do a lot of research online, especially because a lot of the crafters are home-based. So you see other people and their stores and what they sell, but we really haven't found many, maybe a couple, that work with wood instead of metal as a material. And there are even fewer that make it themselves. We've seen it couple that are really high-end, expensive, perfectly polished wedding and engagement rings that are made out of wood.

Do you only use wood?

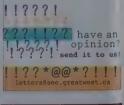
We use wood as far as the pleces and the pendants go. But we also just came out with

Twee Lad and a Twee Fancy line. The Twee
Fancy uses a lot of chain, whereas regularly
it's on suede, and we use other pieces of
hardware. like cufflinks hardware. Twee Lad
is for boys. There are cufflinks and bigger
rings, stuff like that. We also have some bolo
ties which are pretty popular. Even girls have
been buying them.

Where did the name Twee come from?

Twee means so cute that it's annoying. Like nauseatingly cute, which we think is a good thing. It also means "two" in Dutch, and Heather's Dutch, and there's two of us!





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Ginger Chicken From Another World



ando-Chinese, But Not Fusion | Masala Wok uses Indian ingredients and cooking techniques on traditionally Chinese rishes, PHOTO BY MERVI. SMITH LAWTON

A CHANCE STUMBLING INTO MASALA WOK BRIDGES THE GAP BETWEEN HALAL MEATS AND CHINESE TAKEOUT

MASALA WOK 9348-34 Ave., 490-7200

Blustery Friday evening in the car, ram blurring the brake lights of the last after-work traffic, and Mill Woods still jealously guarding her secrets. Our original objective was an Indian restaurant on 66 Street that someone wrote in to recommend Unfortunately, it had taken mea bit too long to get there, as said restaurant had legal-looking documentation taped to its glass doors that suggested said restaurant isn't going to be open anytime soon.

No problem. Someone else had written in to tell me I was talking out my ass about the lack of South Indian restaurants in town, and referred me to an eatery proximal to where we now found ourselves, wet and hungry. We rushed there to find the staff on their way out the door to work at a private function. No iddli for us. Luckily, there was a Central American café and grocery next door. Unluckily, it was only a grocery store just then, as the cook didn't come in on Fridays.

So much thwarting only steeled our resolve. We struck out west under a barrage of fat raindrops toward the sprawl of subcontinental restaurants and businesses on 34 Avenue. Way the hell tucked into the corner of one such strip mall, we espied Massala Wok a restaurant that

Way the hell tucked into the cornier of one such strip mall, we espied Masala Wok, a restaurant that boasted a unique blend of Chinese and Indian cuisine—not fusion in the usual trendy, everyone-in-black restaurant sense, but a style of cooking that adapts Chinese recipes to Indian ingredients and cooking techniques, allegedly a feat of Kolkata's Chinese community.

Ambience-wise, Masala Wok embraces, or at least straddles, elements of diverse eating cultures. With its dark tables arranged to accommodate communal eating, the tidy and tastefully illuminated dining room is dominated by a big flat-screen TV piping in *Indian Idol* and Punjabi community news from Mississauga. The facing walls are purple and saffron, and a well-stocked bar glows warmly in ■ corner. A pass-through allows a glimpse into the kitchenful of young Indian men in cooking whites manning the woks

We admitted to our hostess that we didn't have the slightest idea what to order. There were some familiar names on the menu-Szechwan, Hunan, Kung Pao-but we needed help putting a meal together. She took the time to describe several dishes and we opted for golden fried fish (\$8.99) for an appetizer, then Manchurian rice with veg (\$6.99), ginger chicken (\$9.99), and mixed hakka noodles (\$9.99). In terms of price range, Masala Wok definitely comes down more on the Chinese takeout end of the spectrum. On the other hand, Masala Wok's menu uses only halal meats—no mu shui pork here, habili

The fried fish reminded me of the way Chinese restaurants often do deep-fried shrimp, with a spongy-crisp coating that cries out for a little plastic packet of plum sauce. The fish in question, basa as it turned out, came with a side dish of hot chili paste. Basa tends to be pretty flavour-neutral and a little mushy, but this was no fault of the prepara

ion.

Hakka is a variant on chow mein—¹ short noodles mixed with sliced up things (chicken, prawns, egg, green peppers, cabbage, carrot, green onions, cilantro) and tossed in a soya-ginger sauce. Not ■ supremely distinctive dish in terms of composition, but Masala Wok's kitchen did a nice job of blending it all together.

Much more distinctive was the delicious ginger chicken, which was markedly different from its Chinese namesake, which is usually battered and fried. The Masala Wok version featured tender chunks of thigh meat and green pepper slices simmered in a buttery gravy zested up with fresh ginger. This was an instant favourite.

After a lull, the delightfully disheveled owner checked in and found we were still short a dish. It took him no more than 30 seconds to retrieve the plate of Manchurian veg and rice we'd been awaiting so we could dump gravy on it. Turns out it didn't really need any gravy, as the rice had been cooked with a tomato-based sauce laced with ginger, turmeric, and coriander. Unlike fried rice, it wasn't oily or heavy and it contained fresh herbs in with the stirfried cubes of carrot, peas, peppers, and onions. It was almost suspiciously flavourful and estifation.

The delightfully disheveled owner ambled by again and chatted a bit about our meal, explaining that we'd have to come back because the dishes on the menu were so different from each other. And, at less than \$40 for a sizable feed and plenty of tasty leftovers, the idea didn't seem



CALL FOR PUBLIC ART JURORS

The Edmonton Arts Council (EAC), on behalf of the City of Edmonton, is requesting nominations for our Public Art Jury roster. All artists commissioned through the EAC Public Art Program initially undergo assessment by a Public Art Jury. Members of this jury act as peer evaluators, providing recommendations for each Public Art commission applicable through City of Edmonton Policy C458B - "Percent for Art III Provide and Encourage Art in Public Areas" and through the Community Public Art Grants program.

Juries may be comprised of artists and other community arts/design professionals with knowledge pertinent to the project criteria. Jury members should be capable of providing a critical analysis of the artist's qualifications, as well as of the suitability of the proposal under review.

To nominate yourself or someone else, please contact the EAC's Public Art Diretor, Kristy Trinier, for a nomination package at ktrinier@edmontonarts.ab.ca or 780-424-2787 ext. 222.



EDMONTON ARTS COUNCIL

808, 10310 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5J 2W4 780-424-2787 www.edmontonarts.ab.ca/publicart





COMMENT - NO MORE HAPPY HOUR 1610 words

Grow The Hell Up, Already



HODEN NIVA FISH GRIWKOWSKY

AS THE CITY PREPARES TO

QUASH CHEAP DRINKS, FISH

TAKES CHEAP SHOTS AT THE

REAL TROUBLMAKERS

Picture the scenario, fellow imperialists: an end to Saturday-night street violence, thanks merely to the raising of minimum drink prices by a couple dollars! Hit those kid oil workers where it hurts most: their nickel jars.

Then, like magic, all along Jasper, other cross-eyed mouth-breathers on steroids suddenly start treating their girlfriends with respect. There's an end to tears, leaving police more time to harass Aboriginals quietly sleeping in parks. Just wonderful!

And how did it happen, this utopia? All it took was selling jarheads fewer drinks at last call, of course. The Alberta Liquor and Gaming Commission, by increasingly treating us like infants—restricting our democratic choices at the source instead of making people responsible for their own actions—saves civilization itself! The idea eventually spreads as other options are considered.

People never fight in Muslim countries, right? Nope. There's never violence where religion forbids the consumption of alcohol. So let's derail booze! Eventually, back home, liquor is taxed to even more preposterous levels—a 20-ounce pint of beer runs you \$20 by 2010. Well, why not, eh? Look at history: after cigarette prices were raised and smokers were forced to stand several feet around the corner from any door, everyone in Alberta stopped smoking instantaneously. You do remember that, right? I'm still nostalgic.

Enough with the sarcasm. Basically, fuck you, provincial Conservatives. Where the fuck do you think you are—Ontario? Why don't you go piss on your own firepits?

piss on your own frepits?

Look, like most of you, I hate the club scenes spilling onto the streets, particularly on Jasper–puking, yelling, and especially littering drunks, specifically young men with just nothing going on behind their animal eyes. But all this talk of raising the drinking age and pre-emptively punishing everyone who parties is

Draconian fucking bullshit.

Also, it won't work. Like that BarLink ID scanning shit, now in pointless operation for a couple vears amid all this escalating street violence, raising the prices of drinks will in no way stop complete fucking morons from taking swings at cops It's a matter of, like I said back there all bitchily, making people who do go over the line pay for their fuck ups. One on one. But if you punish everyone upfront, you infantilize every one of us. And if you treat young people like babies, they'll disconnect even further from developing the urge to grow up someday.

Bars around the city, even peaceful pubs, have had to run full staffs every day of the week because the police aren't around. I sort of un derstand: cops feel they have better things to do than guard property and take abuse on the weekend streets. But it's a municipal security matter, not a financial problem.

And frankly, in Europe, Japan, Las Vegas, and Mexico, where you can walk around with a bottle of booze and cops worry about more important things, there's way less of a pentup cheap thrill in the dollar shooter Or a special day of hockey celebration. Or hokey nationalism. I've seen it out there, over and over. But at home, we're heading the wrong way. people. You pull a lid off a pot so it doesn't boil over, you don't put a boot on top of it. You can't deny it Edmonton is a party city, always has been. There's just such an easy way to release all this tension. It works in older civilizations than ours.

What we need to do is let people drink—just drink—anywhere. And deal with the specific fuckheads who can't handle either system.



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and the office of the state of

HIGHLIGHT · IT'S BAAAACK



Capital Ex • July 17-26 • Northlands

It's that time again: Northlands' annual sun-baked meat market returns. Watch the carnies as they heckle and roll their eyes! See crying children running amok, their parents nowhere to be found! Witness the skin-bearing legions of teenagers flirt and get tossed upside down in way too short shorts! See horses get mangled at the chuckwagon races! Ahem. Well, it is pretty fun to get drunk in the Casino.

THE CARROT ARTS MARKET EVERY SAT 10 AM-2 PM THE CARROT ARTS COFFEEHOUSE, 9351-118 AVE. Artists and artisans from the community and beyond share unique gifts, crafts, and artwork. Info: www.

EDMONTON INTERNATIONAL STREET PERFORMERS FESTIVAL JULY 4-13, CHURCHILL SQUARE GAMES JULY 12 CORNER FOX DRIVE & WHITEMUD. Regular gate admission

HOT PICK

BRAESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, #6 BERNARD DR., ST. AVE. USE NORTH ENTRANCE. Twelve-step support program for adult children of alcoholic and dysfunctional families. ALBERTA ENTREPRENEURS ASSOCIATION 3RD TUE EVERY MONTH, 5:30-9 PM. THE FACULTY CLUB, 11435 SASK

DR. Pre-register at www.aea.ab.ca.
CINÉ-CLUB D'EDMONTON IST MON EVERY MONTH, 7 PM.
AUDITORIUM OU CAMPUS SAINT-JEAN, U OF A Donations

COUNCIL OF CANADIANS MAY 21, 7 PM. GRANDIN GREEN

Sean Curry from the Canadian Peace Congress will speak of his experiences at the International Peace Conference in

EDMONTON NATURE CLUB MONTHLY MEETINGS. ROYAL meetings with guest speakers. Info: Mark, 430-

7134 or mreine@telusplanet.net.
FORWARD THINKERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB TUE, 7 PM STRATH-SHERWOOD DRIVE, SHERWOOD PARK. Build self-confidence

FRENCH CONVERSATION THU, ALLIANCE FRANCAISE #202 8627 RUE MARIE-ANNE GABOURY. Info:

HIP MAMAS MEET-UP Young mothers and their babies meet several times a week. Free to join, plenty ## friends ## be made. Info: hipmama.meetup.com/151/ ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB 2ND THU EVERY MONTH, 8 PM. WOODY'S, 2ND FL. 11723 JASPER AVE Cross-dressers transsexuals, friends, and supporters meet, Info: 387-3343 or

IMAGES ALBERTA CAMERA CLUB 2ND AND 4TH THU EV-HALL, 10860-57 AVE. Presentations, speakers, workshops, outings, monthly and year-end competitions. Photographi outings, morning and peaserul on injectious reviousgraphic enthusiasts of all levels welcome. Info: www.imagesab.com or Sheila, 469-9776; Mufty, 452-6224.

INNOVATORS' NETWORKING CLUB TUE, 11:30 AM-1 PM.

CAFÉ SELECT SOUTH, 109 ST. & 84 AVE. Business networking group, mixer, and dub membership drive. Info: Dwayne, 463-6240 m dwaynebh@bhaken.r.a.

MKP MENS GPOUP EVERY MON, 7 PM. Men's meeting, Info:

N'ORATORS TOASTMASTERS CLUB WED, 7-8:45PM. LONDONDERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY, LONDONDERRY MALL, 137 AVE. & 66 ST. Learn to speak clearly and with confidence in a

NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS CLUB THU, 8-10 PM. 10425 KINGSWAY AVE. Improve public speaking and communica-tions skills in a fun and educational environment. Info:

POWER SPEAKERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB WED 7-9 PM GRANT MACEWAN COLLEGE CENTRE FOR THE ARTS, RM 437 Learn to speak with confidence in a supportive environment

SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES Weekly drop-in meetings, providing resources and information on self-esteem, mental health, and employment. Men welcome

to attent, not. 9455-590.

TOURETTE SYMPOROME SUPPORT LST WED EVERY MONTH (OCT-JUNE), 7 PM. ACADEMY OF RING EDWARD. 852-810 ST, NORTH DOOR Meeting for 15 adults and parents of 15 kids. Info 1-866-824-9164.

UPWARD BOUND TOASTMASTERS CLUB WED, 7-8:30

PM. MIN 601. NORDUEST COLLEG. (1275-106) ST, Improve months of the control of the con

listening, speaking, and overall communication skills. Info WEST-END TOASTMASTER CLUB TUE, 6:45-9 PM. JASPER PLACE LIBRARY, 9010-156 ST, Friendly environment of

LISTINGS cont'd pg. 22

Exclusive web only content contests stories photogalleries more





calgaryfolkfest.com

LISTINGS (cont'd from pg. 21)
WOW-WIRED ON WORDS SUN, II AM-1:15 PM. THREE
BANANAS CAFÉ, CHURCHILL SQUARE An eclectic creative

YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE 2ND PRI EVERY MONTH, 5 PM. RRMEDY CAPE, 8631-109 ST. For discussion topks, and suggested readings go to www.farebook.com/group. phogid 35592/5104.

CANADIAN NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE 11205-101 ST., 479-1999 A range of services for members of the Native community, including a free community lunch Fridays at noon, employment and Public Health information, counseling

CLUB LULU LULULEMON, 10544-82 AVE. Weekly act to get you moving. Info: www.lululemon.com, 435-9363 or

COMMUNITY WEIGHT-LOSS CHALLENGE VARIOUS LOCATIONS 6-week course on dieting and active lifestyles.

CONSTELLATION EVERY IST & 3RD WED. 7PM, 10431-37 AVE. A unique healing process, transforming past burdens into positive affirmations. Info: 967-9162 or constellation-

FREE YOGA CLASS EVERY SUN, 6-7 PM. LULULEMON ATHLETICA KINGSWAY All levels welcome, new styles each week, mats provided. Info: 471-1200 or kingswaygarden-

Communitysusumemor.com.

GENTLE YOGA RADHA YOGA 9946-87 AVE. Weekly classes in small group settings. Sunday Satsang (by donation). Call for schedule and fees. Info: 432-3363 or www.radha.org.

LIYING POSITIVE TUE, 7-9 PM. SUITE 50, 9912-106 ST. Confidential space where POZ people can discuss and HIV in Alberta. Info: 488-5768 or edmixing positive.ca.

LOTUS SOUL GYM YOGA STUDIO 10578-82 AVE. Multidisciplinary yoga studio offering drop-in and registered classes in hatha, vinyasa flow, Pilates, yoga for runners, pre-natal, post-natal, mommy & me, and partner workshops. All levels welcome. Info: www.latussoulgym.com, 434-9642 or info@

MADELEINE SANAM FOUNDATION 3RD & 4TH SAT EVERY MONTH, 9 AM-5 PM. FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN, 8406-91 ST., RM 3-18. An organization for the emancipation and autonomy

community health, training on HIV-AIDS prevention, treatment, and harm reduction. French, English and African languages. Admission free for members, membership \$10.

12316 JASPER AVE. FOR ALL SKILL LEVELS. INFO: 722-9773 OR DENISE BRAQABELLYDANCE.COM.
DIGITAL PHOTO WORKSHOPS AT MACEWAN 10045
156 ST. CENTRE FOR THE ARTS & COMMUNICATION CAMPUS

DROP-IN ART FOR THE ARTIST AT HEART PROFILES PUBLIC ART GALLERY, 19 PERRON ST., ST. ALBERT, Info: Sienda 460-4310 or ahfglenda@telus.net.

EDMONTON WEAVERS' GUILD (lasses on weaving

EDMONTON WRITERS' CENTRE STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, #7 CHURCHILL SQUARE. A creative space for writers of all genres and levels. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-9 pm. Sat 9 am-6 pm. Sun 1-5 pm. Info: 496-7070.

FAVA WORKSHOPS The Film and Video Arts Society offers one-night workshops twice a month in a variety of media

activities. Info: www.fava.ca or 429-1671.

FLAMENCO LESSONS SUN & MON, 2:30-3:30 PM. Judith and Oscar lose Garcia teach both Flamenco dance & guitar. Info: 1-780-349-4843 or oigarcia@telusplanet.net. KARATE INSTRUCTION Classes for kids over 10, teens, and

adults. Info: www.manatisowin.com or 975-6910.

KITA NO TAIKO JAPANESE DRUMMING WORKSHOPS
Schedules, info, and registration: www.kitanotaiko.ca or

MARS HILL CENTRE 88318-104 ST., 435-0202 Classes and workshops on the recovery process. Registration on a sliding scale, based on participant's income. Info: www.

MEDIA MAG WORKSHOPS EDMONTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, #600, 9990 JASPER AVE. Info: www.mediamag.

NORTHERN RIVER KARATE SCHOOL TUE, THU & SAT, DELGRAVIA COMMUNITY HALL, 11540-73 AVE. Weekly classes in Karate, Kobudo, Yoga,

Qi gong, and Sitting Meditation, Info SALSA LESSONS WED & THU, LA nesday and Thursday Info-

OUEER

AGAPE EDUCATION FACULTY, U OF A CAMPUS Focus group ex and gender differences in education and culture. service and practicing teachers, community members EPS/LGBTQ LIASION COMMITTEE The EPS/LGBTQ Liaison Committee is composed of a variety of concerned lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified, two-spirited, queer. uniform, uniform translation their filed, two-spirited, queer all questions or oncerns to ensightly dephadroa. All Impaires treated with confidentiality and respect. To report a hate or bias motivated crime, contact the EPS Hate & Bias Crime Unit, 421-3499. non-profit society for members and friends of the GLBT community, offering well organized and fun sporting eve and other regreational activities within a positive social framework. Info: www.teamedmorrton.ca.

WOMONSPACE Non-profit lesbian organization for Edmonton and surrounding area. Organized monthly activi-ties, Memberships available, including monthly newsletter. Confidentiality assured, Info: www.gaycanada.com/ womonspace, womonspace@gmail.com, or 482-1794. **YOUTH SPACE** PRIDE CENTRE OF EDMONTON, 9540-111 AVE. An after-school drop-in program for gay, lestian, bisexual. trans-identified, queer, questioning, and allied (GLBTQQ&A) youth under Z5. Open Tue-Sat 3-7 pm. Info: brendan@

THURSDAY

and supporters meet. Info: 387-3343 or groups.yahoo.com/ eman/edmonton illusions

YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT 6 PM. PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.

SATURDAY

NORTHERN TITANS GLBT BOWLING LEAGUE 7 PM. GATEWAY LAMES & RECREATION CENTRE, #100, 3414 GATEWAY BLVD. \$15 per person.

SINGLE LESBIANS OVER 40 Women's social and coffee. Info: singlewomen40plus(dhotmail.com. Y**OUTH UNDERSTANDING YOUTH** 7-9 PM. PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVF Leshian, gay hisexual, transgendered.

10804-119 ST. Dider gay men and admirers meet for a social period, short business meeting, followed by guest speaker, discussion panel, or potlud supper. Special interest groups meet

ties throughout the month. EPT is affiliated with Prime Timers World Wide. Info: edmontonpt@ vahoo.ra or www.primetimersw org/edmonton.

HATHA YOGA 2-3:30 PM. LION'S

BREATH YOGA. Introductory level class, free. No previous experience required.
Bring yoga mat or towel and water. Info: yoga@

LAMBDA CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH 7 PM.
GARNEAU UNITED CHURCH, 11148-84 AVE. Lambda provides
a safe and healing space for Edmonton's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and heterosexual Christians. All denominations and faiths welcome. Info: 887-8611 or

MEN TALKING WITH PRIDE 7 PM. PRIDE CENTRE 9540-111 AVE. Men's social and discussion group, facilitated by Rob Wells, Info: robwells70@hotmail.com or 488-3234. SOULDUTING 3RD SUN EVERY MONTH, 7 PM. ROBERTSON-WESLEY UNITED CHURCH, 10209 123 ST. LGBT-focused alternative worship. Info: 482-1587 or email iravenscroft@

SOUTHMINSTER-STEINHAUER UNITED CHURCH 10
AM. 10740-19 AVE. Welcomes all sexual orientations. Info:

SPIRITUAL LIVING CENTRE Info: www.spirituallivingcen

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH 10 AM. 11526-76 AVE. All orientations welcome for Sunday service. Info: 436-1555 or

TRANS EDUCATION & SUPPORT GROUP IST & 3RD SUN EVERY MONTH, 2 PM. PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Provides support and education for all transsexual, transgendered. intersexed, two-spirited, and questioning individuals, info

WOMONSPACE BOARD MEETING IST SUN EVERY MONTH 10:30 AM-12:30 PM. PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE.

HIV SUPPORT GROUP 2ND MON EVERY MONTH, 7-9 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Info: Richard, 488-3234 or richard@pridecentreofedmonton.org.

FREEDOM METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF EDMONTON 7:15 PM. 10086 MACDONALD DR. A church for

LGBT SENIORS DROP IN 1:30-3:30 PM. PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-311 AVE. Social meeting for seniors of all genders, Info MAKING WAVES SWIMMING CLUB NAIT POOL 11767-106

ST. Recreational and competitive swimming and coaching. Beginners encouraged to participate. Practices every Tue (8-9 pm) and Thu (7:30-8:30 pm), followed by social meet

OUTREACH S PM HERITAGE ROOM ATHARASCA HALL II OF A CAMPUS U of A based group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and straight-but-friendly students, staff, and faculty. Open to the community outside the U of A. Info. www.outreach.pixelalmighty.com or outreach@ualberta @ PFLAG EDMONTON IST TUE EVERY MONTH, 7 PM. PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Support meeting for parents, families, and friends of GLBT individuals. Info: 488-3234. STEP AEROBICS 5 PM. AEROBICS STUDIO, KINSMEN SPORTS CENTRE, 9100 WALTERDALE HILL. Info: step@

TRANS SUPPORT GROUP 2ND TUE EVERY MONTH, 7:30-9:30 PM. GARNEAU UNITED CHURCH MEETING ROOM, 11148-84 AVE. Education and support group for trans-identified and questioning people. Info: 718-1412 or

ttigalliance@shaw.ca.
TTIO ALLIANCE 2ND TUE EVERY MONTH. 7:30 PM. PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Support meeting for transgender, transsexual, intersex, and questioning individuals. Providing education, advocacy and support for men, women, and

WEDNESDAY

EDMONTON RAINBOW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION 2ND WED EVERY MONTH Casual networking with the GLBT business community. Locations listed on www.edmonton/ba.

FREE TO BE RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL 8-10 PM. 101 AMISKIWACY ACADEMY \$50 per season, Info: recvolleybail@

OPEN DOOR CLUB 5 PM. GRANT MACEWAN COLLEGE, CITY CENTRE CAMPUS, RM 6-217 Social group for GLBTO student

Texas Edwort on Baddinion of the County succession of the County and friends at GMCC.

TEAM EDWORTON BADMINTON 6 PM. OLIVER SCHOOL GYM, 10277-118 ST. Women's drop-in recreational badminon all levels welcome. \$30 for the season, \$5 drop-in. Info:

YOURS, MINE, OURS AND US (YMOU) 1ST AND 3RD WED EVERY MONTH Support group for GLBT parents, partners, and friends. Info: 426-6311 or 415-5434.



INSIDE/OUT U of A Campus-based organization for LGBTQ faculty, graduates, academic & staff. Straight allies welcome. Monthly meetings. Info: HOT PICK

PRIDE CENTRE 9540-111 AVE 488-3234. Hours: Tue—Fri 1-10 pm. Sat 12-6:30 pm. Orop-in, library, and community internet services are available. Online enewsletter Hours: Tue-Fri 1-10 pm, Sat 12-6:30 pm. Info: 488-3234 or www.pridecen-

Please enjoy our products responsibly.

TEAM EDMONTON A volunteer operated.

BI-SEXUAL WOMEN'S COFFEE GROUP 2ND THU EVERY MONTH, 7:30 PM. A social group for bi-curious and bi-sexual FREE TO BE INTERMEDIATE VOLLEYBALL 8-10 PM. 101 AMISKIWACY ACADEMY Info: volleyball@teamedmonton.ca.

GAYWIRE 6 PM. CJSR 88.5 FM Edmonton's only radio show concerning gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered lives. News, tocal and international features, and community

LGBT SENIORS DROP IN 1:30-3:30 PM, PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Social meeting for seniors of all genders. Info:

ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB 2ND THU EVERY MONTH, 8 PM.

straight, and questioning youth (up to 25) gather to have fun and learn in a safe, supportive environment. Info; yuy@

SUNDAY

ARCIT FROM TRUMNERS 10 AM Runners of all levels of ability welcome. Runs are typically 6-8 Km, usually 44-60 minutes. Coffee afterwards. Info on venues and other runs during the week running@leamedmonton.ca, or 436-7892. BALLROOM DANCING 7:30-8:30 PM All gender combinations welcome. Salsa, rhumba, waltz, jive. Info: 469-3281 or

EDMONTON PRIME TIMERS (EPT) 2ND SUN MOST MONTHS, 2:30 PM. UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON.

-WYCLEF IFAL

MISIC PREVIEW · CARNIVAL HOP · BY RENATO PAGNANI 1811 words

Wyclef Don't Preach



fou Don't Have To Sell Drugs | You can make an honest million, insists Wyclef Jean. SUPPLIED

WYCLEF JEAN RETURNS TO HIS HAITIAN ROOTS AND TRIES TO KEEP HIS MUSICAL MESSAGES "COOL" FOR THE KIDS

WYCLEF JEAN

w/ Akon and Sean Paul. June 17 (7pm). Rexall Place (7424-118 Ave). Tickets available through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.ca).

Hip-hop and social commentary have been bedfellows since Grandmaster Flash's anti-drug song "White Lines (Don't Do It)" was released in 1984 More than 20 years later, artists are still addressing societal ills through "rebel music," as Wyclef Jean calls it. But while Jean's music, which incorporates a myriad of sounds—from American rap and the reggae stylings of his native Haiti to world music—is often political, music is not the only medium the singer/songwriter, rapper, and producer uses to spark social change.

Three years ago, Jean launched the Yêle Haiti foundation, a non-political organization that distributes food, builds schools, and provides scholarships to students in Haiti, with the goal of rebuilding the nation after decades of violence and poverty. And just last spring, Jean was made a roving ambassador of the country by Haitian president René Préval, charged with the task of improving the nation's image abroad.

"I'm trying to help paint a new, more positive image of Haiti," Jean says over the phone from Argentina, where he is filming the video for the next single from his latest album, Carnival Vol. II. Memoirs of an Immigrant. "The light that you see it in is so negative. There's more to Haiti than just [capital city] Port-au-prince, fust like when you go to Jamaica—there's Kingston, but there's

also Montego Bay and Ocho Rios I'm not saying there aren't problems, but these are some of the most beau tiful places in the world. My goal
to get people to look at Haiti in ■ different light."

Jean thinks that his music can make just as much of an impact as his humanitarian efforts can. If just one person researches the food crisis on Africa or feels compelled to learn more about a foreign country he knows nothing about after listening to one of his songs, lean considers his music successful. But getting kids to listen to music which addresses social issues is a balancing act.

"It's always challenging because it still has to stay cool and hip for the kids," Jean admits. "It can't feel preachy. I always feel that there's a way to make music that's real instead per's 2007 disc T.I. vs TI.P. and the two discovered they shared a chemistry in the recording booth "I wanted a younger ear to listen to what I was coming with." Jean explains "I wanted a fresh opinion and I didn't want it from someone my age necessarily I wanted the perspective of,a kid yho was in his 20s. T.I. and I connected so strongly musically, so I was like. "Take a listen to this and tell me what you think," and when he heard it he was like. "Yo, this swagger is so crazy, I've got to be a part of this!"

And it appears T.I. was right. The disc's lead single "Sweetest Girl" has charted in 12 countries, reaching #18 on the Canadian Hot 100 charts. The song features Akon, Niia, and Lil Wayne, whose new album *Tha Carter III* has become the first rap album in more than three years to sell one

YOU DON'T HAVE TO STAND ON THAT CORNER AND SELL BRUGS, DO YOU WANT TO BE A MILLIONAIRE? YOU CAN STILL DO IT. THE HONEST WAY.

of preachy. People always ask, 'How can you make music that has substance to it which kids still think is cool?' and I tell them, 'Just try to be honest'.

"I don't ever try to paint myself as a saint, you know what I'm saying? I never paint myself as this supergood guy. I paint myself as a guy who worked at Burger King. You don't have to stand on that corner and sell drugs. Do you want to be a millionaire? You can still do it, the honest way. That's the kind of message I'm trying to promote to the kids."

To ensure that Carnival Vol. II connected with young audiences, Jean enlisted the aid of Atlanta rapper T.I. as co-executive producer Jean had done some production on the rap-

million copies in its first week of release. Not since 50 Cent's *The Mas*sacre has an album managed to equal those opening-week numbers, an alarming falloff in sales for a genre that used to be one of the record industry's most reliable sellers

"[Wayne] did it the old school way," Jean says "He did it grassroots, and put out a thousand mixtapes, and did features for everybody. You can still push units; you just have to keep innovating Rappers need to discover new ways to build demand for their music, just like Wayne did."

Carnival Vol. 11 only sold only 46,519 copies in its first week, but perhaps to Wyclef Jean, that means his message has reached over 40,000 people.

CHURCH 4

Wha? At The Church You Say? | Maybe Fred Eaglesmith still can't decide where to hold his mystery gig, but we're guessing i

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ONDER WHERE?

The **Fred Eaglesmith Show**The Haven Social Club • July 14
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So there's a secret gig going down on July 15. Word is, you buy tickets and on the day of the show someone's gonna send out a mass email to ticketholders with the ultra-secret location—only for the most uber Eaglesmith fans (sometimes referred to as Fredheads). For those less über-eager, they can catch the Secret Gig Kickoff party at the Haven the day before, no computer required. Kind of the suppose, it's not so easy to crash an unknown location.

WONDER WHO? MOBADASS Pawn Shop - July 12 \$8 | At the door

the mean release in the original bass trinkness, trend Wide Mouth Mason, comes Mo'Badass (hopefully a lot mo' badass than the predecessor, anyway). Pereira's been a busy bee crafting his brand of 'Island rock' for the past few years, opening for Los Lobos, Blue Rodeo, and Sloan, and was voted Best Local Band in Saskatoon (Saskatoon! Whee!) by weekly mag Planet S in 2006 and 2007. The most recent leg of his tour promotes the release of his new CD—incidentally titled Island Rock. As they say in advertising: repetition is key.

WONDERLAND? Motion Notion

Drayton Valley · July 17-20 Passes from \$73 | Ticketmaster.ca, Foosh

woods—er, well, out in some Bent River Valley Ranch. Let's say if you were to take weed to the other hippie fests, you might want to take something more, uh, psychotropic on this one. Dis will cover the fields, with hula hoopers in tow. Freq Nasty, Dieselboy, Eskimo, Malente, and Smalltown Dis, to name a few. Plus 24-hour medics, beach parties, river rafting, and a chill-out tent (for when you've overdone it on the psychotropics). Wait, how many fingers....?





Distory and Hospitality on tap

MUSIC PREVIEW - PRISON ROCK - BY CHRISTINE LEONARD 1521 words

Records From A Bomb Shelter



Was Like Being In Jail | To focus on El Torpedo's newest album, Matt Mays sequestered himself in a bomb shelter in England.

MATT MAYS EMERGES FROM EXILE WITH AN ALBUM THAT DEPARTS DRAMATICALLY FROM HIS ROOTSY PAST

KID BUCK

w/ Matt Mays and El Torpedo. July 11 (8pm). Rexall Place. Tickets: from \$36.50, available through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster ca).

Absence may make the heart grow fonder, but it can also make the mind go a little crazy. According to Matt Mays, such was the case when the lead vocalist and guitarist for the band El Torpedo banished himself to England in order to focus on recording and producing their first new allows as the power.

Terminal Romance—the muchanticipated followup to his band's stellar self-titled 2005 release—demanded nothing less than perfection from Mays, who cut his teeth playing with folk-rockers The Guthries. This period of self-imposed exile was a lonely time for the singer/songwriter, who is quick to draw comparisons between his own experiences and

"WE DON'T WEAR OUR INFLUENCES ON OUR SLEEVES ANYMORE."

those of a career mariner-or even an incarcerated felon.

"It was like being in jail—recording jail," says Mays. "The place we stayed was like an old, abandoned Boy Scout camp with only bunk beds to sleep on, but it was located near our recording studio. The studio itself was a former bomb shelter, which was rather weird in itself. I arrived two months ahead of everyone else, and I was starting to a go a bit

nutty on my own. It was testing—like being at sea alone for a month. We were just looking to be isolated from the rest of our lives, our routines friends, girlfriends, and wives, what ever. We wanted to have only one thing on our minds, but it ultimately made us a little crazy in the end."

With distractions kept to a minimum, Mays set about sorting through 18 tracks, eventually narrowing them down to 11 for the final cut, reworking each song with the same consideration as he did when writing them in the bustling cafes of Brooklyn. By the time guitarist vocalist Jay Smith, drummer Tim Baker, and bassist Andy Patil joined him at their British hideaway, Mays was more than ready to kick things into high gear and lay down some live takes in the studio. A slight detour from their previous roots rock round-up, Terminal Romance unfolds in a manner similar a multiact play, from the swaying groove of "Tall Trees" to the '80s-inspired Jim Carroll ode "Rock Ranger Record."

"We don't wear our influences on our sleeves anymore," Mays says. "The new album is less rootsy than what we've done in the past and has more of a straight-up rock sound. The songs are all tied together and seem to have become a theme on their own. It was like 'Poof!' It decided to be an album and I couldn't fight it. You have to give a work like that every opportunity to present it self. We play live in the studio, so it was just a matter of trying take after take and giving the songs a chance to come alive. It's like raising a child Now it's out there forever. I'll die. our world will overheat, but the song







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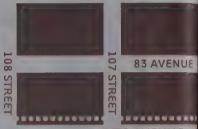


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WEAR A HAT!

A Well-Respected Man



Heeey, You Really Got Me Now | The Kinks' heyday influenced everything from hard rock to hair metal. PHOTO SUPPLIED

A GUIDE TO THE ALBUMS THAT MADE RAY DAVIES AND THE KINKS ONE OF THE SEMINAL BANDS OF THE 1960S BRITISH INVASION

RAY DAVIES

July 15 (8pm). Winspear Centre, Sir Winston Churchill Square. Tickets: from \$47, available at the Winspear box office (428-1414)

Ray Davies and The Kinks spent much of their storied careers in the shadow of The Beatles' worldwide takeover—but while they may have been underappreciated by the masses, the band had an influence far greater than their sales would indicate.

Davies and The Kinks claimed a place in pop history thanks to a string of early hits like "You Really Got Me" and "All Day and All of the Night," but one has to wonder how different pop would sound nowadays had the group not been banned from performing in the U.S. in the '60s heyday of the British Invasion, or if Davies' masterwork, The Kinks Are the Village Green Preservation Society, had been as well-received commercially as it was critically.

Above all else, what's separated Davies from his contemporaries

(not to mention just about anyone else who's tried to follow him) is his steadfast dedication to telling real-life stories. His witty wordplay, pointed lyrics, and droll British humour remains unmatched, no matter how hard Damon Albarn tried to duplicate it on Blur's Parklife and The Great Escape, which wore their Kinks influence heavily on their starched sleeves.

Last year's Working Man's Café adds to Davies' collection of working-class British vignettes, but that astonishing string of Kinks albums released between 1966 and 1971 remain the songwriter's crowning achievements. Here's a neophyte's guide to the Kink kronicles:

Face to Face (1966)

While critics often point to 1965's The Kink Kontroversy as Davies' entry point into true brilliance, Face to Face's more subtle sonic palette holds up better. "Sunny Afternoon" was a #1 hit in the U.K., but "Too Much on My Mind" and "Rosy Won't You Please Come Home" show the seeds of The Kinks' darkly blossoming pop heart. The best pop is always the saddest, and few pull off this balance quite as skillfully as The Kinks'

to here

Something Else (1967)

As everyone else got louder. The Kinks got more pastoral and folksy "Waterloo Sunset" (an eternally fas cinating sketch of a couple's loving meetings in the titular London tube station) usually gets the bulk of the praise, but Something Else also of fers up the simple pleasures of "Afternoon Tea" and "Situation Vacant," a tale of a better job, a better life, and spatting with the in-laws.

The Kinks Are the Village Green Preservation Society (1968)

More has been said about Village Green than any other Kinks album, even though it flopped upon its release. Just as The Beatles gave listeners a snapshot of their Liverpool hometown with "Penny Lane" and "Strawberry Fields Forever," Davies turned his attention to small-town English life in the process creating one of the finest 20th century documents of a nation as a whole.

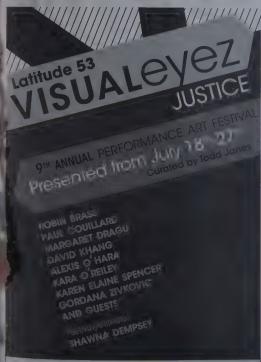
Arthur or The Decline and Fall of the British Empire (1969) Davies reacted to the Summer of Love by composing his first narrative concept record enlisting a range of English characters, including WWII soldiers. Queen Victoria, and Winston Churchill It's nearly as perfect as Village Green, yet even more painfully underheard

Lola Versus Powerman and the Moneygoround, Part One

A sudden stylistic shift saw Davies dropping the orchestral overtones of Arthur and Village Green in favour of Southern-flavoured rock, leading to one of The Kinks' greatest opening salvos. "The Contenders." There's far more here than just "Lola," although that song alone helped keep the good ship Kink afloat after the commercial failure of everything from Something Else onward

Muswell Hillbillies (1971)

Striking a chord with "Lola" made Davies shift gears again, resulting in this dark portrait of middle-class London. "Alcohol" and "Oklahoma U.S.A." stand up as two of his finest heartbreakers.



For more information visit: Latitude53.org or call (780) 424.5353



1+1









melis Like German Expressionism | Headband's Bobby Kydd and Sean Hammermeister put on a truly dazzling AV show at the Empress Tuesday, letting out guitar chords so

THE PARLOUR MOB STARLITE ROOM - JULY 4

It was an interesting case of the chicken and the egg last Friday at The Starlite: was the crowd small because the Parlor Mob weren't very good? Or was the band not very good because the crowd was small?

A tough call that, perhaps, sheds light on the occasional reality of playing in Edmonton. It wasn't is case of inadequate media coverage, as SEE. Vive. and the Journal all ran previews. So maybe the first explanation was correct—the crowd was small because the band simply wasn't very good. I'd say they were a mediocre band filtering the best aspects of better ones. At one point they switched to acoustics and looked/sounded so similar to Zeppelin playing "Bron-yr-aur Stomp" that I couldn't take them seriously.

And yet, once they hit their stride with both guitars intertwining and the singer wailing, I couldn't help but smile. The one guitarist clearly digs Jack White, mirroring him in both style (jet-black, face-covering

hair) and, more importantly, guitar tone (that high-treble freakout sound), which isn't a bad thing.

The openers, however... yikes. Stone iris weren't technically bad, just bland. Like a bowl of soggy Rice Krispies. Their songs all seemed at least six minutes long, and their pleas for people to come dance fell on apathetic ears. KERRY HIRSCH

HEADBAND W/THE SECRETARIES EMPRESS ALEHOUSE · JULY 8

Flash floods didn't keep crowds away from Tuesday's packed show at the Empress—though the bar would probably make a fine ark in a pinch. At the helm would be Headband frontman Bobby Yiannakoulias, the full-time crooner and part-time handyman responsible for the group's theatrical set design. The band looks decidedly sci-fi, bathed in eerie blue soundwave projections—as if Fritz Lang directed movies about rock 'n' rollers instead of robot feminoids.

The band tore through a set of bluesy metal, harking back to a time when heavy music was synonymous with denim, greasy hair, and acne, capping off the evening with a cover of Black Sabbath's "Children of the Grave" that left both stoners and leather daddies alike howlin' at the moon.

Despite drummer Tash Fryzuk splittin' her pretty head open like a ripe summer melon. The Secretaries delivered an elegant opening set. If your morn dug Heart and Some Girls-era. Stones, you would definitely have a soft spot (or hard-on) for these iams.

The group's usual crowd of sweaty rockers was peppered with bespectacled CKUA-ers and flabby folk fans, but even those pale-skinned weirdos couldn't ruin a rousing game of 'Pin the Head-Band on the Headband', orchestrated mid-set by the foxy threesome. The winner took home a plate of Rice Krispies squares, but when the Wednesday morning hangover kicks in, there are no winners, only losers. TRAVIS SARGENT

MUSIC BU77 - MUNICIPAL HAPPENINGS | 542 words

Thanks For Not Being Stupid



WILDLIFE FISHGRIWKOWSKY
PEMBINA RIVER NIGHTS
ORGANIZER LIVES BY ONE
SIMPLE MOTTO: "RULES ARE
MADE FOR STUPID PEOPLE"

There's a common argument that the older a festival gets, the more bloated and crippled it becomes under the weight of its own security personnel trying to justify their existences, year after year, with fresh and pointless new rules. North Country Fair is a notable exception—though even this aidyllic fest's popularity did make for a noticeably busier, messier campground in '08.

Being sold out, in other words, ain't always such a good thing. As pretty as the human quilt of a hill is from a distance, f'rinstance, I think the Edmonton Folk Fest would actually benefit if it were a little less like a hyper-packed Japanese outdoor pool and more like the upcoming Pembina River Nights.

Calvin Buckler, organizer of the riverside jamboree an hour west of the city, certainly seems to have a complete grasp of this concept.

"We almost tripled our attendance from last year and I am really excited about that," Buckler says. "In my original festival statement, I said there would be a limit of 1,500 tickets sold. I have now changed my mind and dropped that limit to 600 tickets." Asked how he's doing, he responds, "I am wonderful. Tickets are selling great. Don't think it is going to be a complete sellout, but close. [And] the water is absolutely heautiful."

Like NCF, the lineup's main attraction this weekend is actually its setting, though Fred Eaglesmith, Carolyn Mark, and locals Scott Cook and Jeff Stuart (whose band includes Gavin Dunn and Dwayne Martineau doing what he describes as a "Kanye thing" on keyboards) are worth a long look. You can still find tickets online at asmallshieldmusic.ca.

Buckler concludes, "Like my dad says, 'Rules are made for stupid people.' Thanks for not being stupid."

Just want to send a shoutout to DEVO for stepping up to McDonald's, who completely stole the band's Energy Dome flowerpot hat in some fucking American Idol Happy Meal giveaway called New Wave Nigel. Although America is an overlitigated hellhole where, according to the latest Maclean's, folks make less money, work more, and live shorter lives with less sex than us, it did produce a system where DEVO could stand up to the McMan, settling out of court. So, uh, go America!

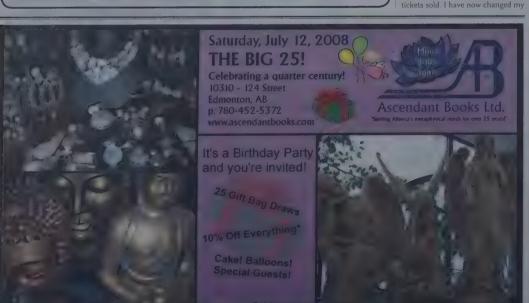
P.S.: Fuck American Idol and the whole wave of karaoke "super-stars"

Back home, promoter Steve Derpack explains what's going on at the Urban Lounge, dispelling some rumours.

"The Urban Lounge is staying where it is, where The One on Whyte was, and it will continue to be a live music venue," he explains. "We have recently had artists such as Maceo Parker play the room, and have Lee 'Scratch' Perry coming up in the fall. [September 3, to be exact.] We are booking acoustic and rock acts, and want to diversify our booking across many different genres. I would be happy to see many different styles of music featured in the room back to back-the room has great sightlines to the stage, a big dancefloor. multiple bars, a large stage, a nice green room, and is located in a high density/traffic location in an arts

Back to that Lee "Scratch" Perry show: opening the night will be Tim Balash's newish reggae-ish band with Mike Silverman, Dub Vulture When asked about it, Balash just grinned so wide the top of his head fell off.

wildlife@see.greatwest.co



CDREVIEWS



COLDPLAY Viva La Vida (Capitol) * 查查查查

Oh good: another tender bit of music aimed at those who know nothing about tenderness Or

SIGUR RÓS

endalaust (XL)

Comparing the plinky,

otherworldly sound of

Sigur Rós to the squawks

and velos of their Icelandic

countrymate Björk might be

too obvious. Maybe it's the

overdramatic instrumentals

or the chirpy, weird vocals

that makes them sound

alike, but whatever the

magic ingredient is, it raises

the hairs in your ears: like it's

the last night on earth and

all the stoned elfin creatures

are sticking their necks out

to feel the wind in their face

Though to their interna-

tional fanbase, the lyrics

the band does make its

first foray into Anglo lyrics

Birgisson's falsetto evokes

emotions on a par with the

most expressive warblings

The album runs the gamut

from the carnivalesque

"Gobbledigook" to the

plunging, sliding guitars in

"Festival," while "Inni Mér

Syngur Vitleysinger" lives up

to its translation: "within me

a lunatic sings." The hairs in

your ears will never be the

FAWNDA MITHRUSH

of any English-speaking

songwriter.

with "All Alright"), Jónsi

will be gibberish (although

for the last time

Med sud i evrum vid spilum

Gentle rockers Coldplay are back with Viva la Vida, a record that sits somewhere between Bends-era Radiohead and a poor man's U2. Mix in some fruity Sgt. Pepper jams (for what it's worth, I also hate The Beatles), nonthreatening good looks, and retarded lyrics, and you've got a soccer mom's wet dream. I can see it now: millions of Gap shirt-folders discussing Chris Martin's delicate genius white mowing down submarine sandwiches in sweaty food courts. Sorry, Jack, but I ain't buying it. Nobody who shares the boudoir with one of the hottest actresses of our time could ever write a convincingly forlorn love song, even if the song in question featured "sonic landscapes" courtesy of Brian Eno-whatever the fuck that means. Chris Martin should stick to what he does best: knockin' up Gwyneth Paltrow, fighting paparazzi, and staying out of direct sunlight.

Chock up another great triumph for guys with pukka-shell necklaces and the college students who love them. Viva mediocrity! TRAVIS SARGENT

KLEERUP

Kleenin (EMI Sweden)

Andreas Kleerup is not a happy man. I mean, he isn't even smilling on his album cover (not that many artists do-who'd pick up an album with a chipper-looking singer on it anyway?). But after hearing his debut solo effort, it makes sense: Kleerup is a break-up album. With song titles like "On My Own Again" and "I Just Want to Make That Sad Boy Smile," how can it not be? Best known for his work on the 2006 single with compatriot Robyn, "With Every Heartbeat" (which appears here in all its teary-eved. dancefloor-killing glory), Kleerup doesn't stray too far from that winning formula on his solo work, enlisting the services of other sweetvoiced females to sing over his icy house beats, with the exception of a few tracks where Kleerup steps into the booth himself or forgoes vocals entirely. Those tracks are the real surprisesinstead of losing that crucial human dimension to his

roomy, monochromatic

production, they are able to

breathe and capture pathos

that you can almost reach

out and touch.

RENATO PAGNANI

Ghost Rock (Ubiquity)



The criminally under

rated NOMO is the baddest Michigan funk collective since Parliament/Funkadelic -even though they just look like you and me and don't have names like Bootsy and Dr. Funkenstein. I gave their groundbreaking major-indie debut New Forms five stars two years ago, and Ghost Rock is even better, so it's not like I can give them anything less this time around. This one's a lot more accessible and will hopefully garner the group a wider fanbase. The rhythms are less free and stay focused on their rare groove and Afrobeat templates (which would normally be a disappointment to their more experimental-minded fans, but the sounds are tripped-out enough to keep them more than satisfied). Noisy synths and chimes (reportedly from boxes of their own creation) shimmer on the beautiful "Nova" and "All the Stars," then freak you out on the ominous title track. "Brainwave" kicks off the album and captures their whole ethos: insanely funky, vet completely in-

MUSIC BRIEFS



GET IN THE VAN! CANADIAN DI COLLECTIVE ROCK A ROAD TRIP THE GET 'ER DONE DJ TOUR JULY 10 (8 PM), PAWN SHOP, 10549-82 AVE. STO AT THE DOOR.

DJs don't do road trips. I mean, local stars might head to Calgary or Saskatoon for a weekend, but rarely do they (or their superstar idols) spend weeks in m van kicking it rock star style, hopping gas stations rather than airports.

But like an up-and-coming indie band, the DJs under the "Get Er Done" banner are heading cross-country to take the party past their established local residencies. Starting last week in Whistler, then Vancouver, they're here for the Alberta leg this week before heading to Toronto and Montreal.

Mama Miche (Misha Sterling) from Calgary is on the phone with news of rock star shenanigans already.

"We drank the whole rider in Whistler the other night. Yesterday was hard," says Sterling insisting they'll keep things balanced as the tour unfolds. "Everyone had a good sleep last night and we're out for a beautiful walk today." She rocks electro, techhouse and breaks sounds as one half of Bitchin', the other half being Victoria's Kenzie Clarke. Vancouver's DJ Betti Forde, half of Stinkmitt, is along for the ride, as is Fierce Helder of Toronto's electro party freaks Fritz Helder and The Phantoms.

And yes, they're all ladies. Sterling doesn't want to turn this into a war of the sexes thing but insists that a four opportunity like this wouldn't have been brought to her by a guy. "Anna Von Frances of Pink Mafia was in Calgary for the Junos and the idea developed there. It's just nice to be part of a tour where you're not to told to wear some shirt three sizes too small or what to play," Miche says. "We're just pushing to get ourselves out their as DJs. Our flyers and posters don't have pictures of us wearing sling back tops with our boobs hanging out or anything. We're just here to rock a party."

A special party for everyone involved as they take a bit of each other away from the experience says Sterling, "It's not like some gig that you show up five minutes before you play, then you play, then you fuck off right after 'cause you got shit to do tomorrow. We're talking music, and things, and everybody's got different tracks and ways of doing things."

And you get to party. Like rock stars. For more details on the gals' shenanigans Anna Von Frances has a pretty hilarious blog of the proceedings at pinkmafia.ca/blog/.

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THURSDAY EVENING EMMAX CENTRUM
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ALTERNATIVE
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FORBURGHE FRIDAYS EMPLE BLAIR GOOM Every Friday.
FORBURGHE FRIDAYS EMPLE ALL GOOM Every Friday.
FORBURGHE FRIDAYS EMPLE ALL GOOM Every Friday.

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RED FRIDAYS THE DOCKS Military appro

ROCK THE GLOBE WEEKENDS GLOBE TAP BAR & GRILL

ALTERNATIVE

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SEP 9 - SANTANA Rexall Place

SEP 13 — ELTON JOHN Rexall Place

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Hosted by Karyn Stirling Info: www.expressionzcafe.com MORANGO'S TEK CAFE 7-10 pm. Hosted by Tommy, Info:

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5-9 pm. Hosted by The Royal Tease, followed by karanke XWRECKS 7 pm

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HOOLIGANZ PUB Afternoon jam hosted by Rock 'n Roll

OPEN MIC THE CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE 9351-118 avenue Doors @ 7 pm Every Saturday NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL 3-6 pm. Hosted by Willie James

O'BYRNE'S IRISH PUB 9 pm. Hosted by Joe Bird. THE OVERDRIVE 1:30-5 pm. "Anything Goes" afternoon acoustic iam hosted by The

TEDDY'S LOUNGE & EATERY

MONDAY LB'S PUB 9 pm-12:30 am. Hosted

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Acoustic fiddle jam hosted by Wild Rose Old Tyme Fiddlers Society. Info: Willy 474-5770

THE IVORY CLUB 8 pm. Hosted by Marty Vinko.

ROSE BOWL/ROUGE LOUNGE 9 pm-12 am. w/ Mike
McDonald and Sherry-Lee Wisor.

TUESDAY

HOT PICK

THE DRUID 9 pm. Hosted by Chris Wynters SIDELINERS PUB 8 pm. All Star Jam. Hosted by Alicia Tait THE TAPHOUSE 8:30 pm-1 am. Moosehead Jam, hosted by

Mark Ammar, Dale Collins, and Noel Mackenzie WEDNESDAY

HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB 7:30 pm hosted by Ido Vanderlaan

NAVEN SVLIAL LLUS JUD minosted by Paul LePage.
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EDDIE SHORTS Open Jam all gear provided.
HOOLIGANZ PUB 730 pm. Horsted by Rock 'n' Roll Kenny.
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PLEASANTVIEW HALL 7:30 pm. Bluegrass jam hosted by

Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society STEEPS TEA LOUNGE Acoustic open mic every Wed. Email Jessie at il jalbert@gmail.com by Mondays to book a spot

KARAOKE

HOT PICK

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ELEMENT LOUNGE Wed, 9 pm

FORT GAMING LOUNGE & SPORTS BAR Fri. 9 am w/ Angel How.

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KEEP IT SIMPLE (KIS) CLUB Tue & Sun, 6-10 pm. Except

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METRO BILLIARDS Tue, 10 pm - 2 am, w/ Lounge Lizard

MOJO'S Fri, 9:30 pm. w/Sonia/Prosound Productions MONA LISA PUB Thu-Sat, 9:30 pm-2 am. Sat, w/ Cathy. NHKITA'S Tue & Thu, 7 pm-midnight w/ Shelley.
ON THE ROCKS Mon, 9:30 pm. Drink the Bar Dry Karaoke

OVERDRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB & GRILL, Sat, 9 pm

RAMADA SOUTH Thu, 8 pm Colin & Ell Music Trivia. Sun, 8 orn-midnight w/ Colin & Ed. Almost Famous. RATT Tues, 9 pm. Colin & Ed Music Trivia. Wed, 8 pm w/ Colin. Almost Famou

ROSARIO'S PUB & KARAOKE CENTRAL Daily, 9 pm WOODY'S PUB Mondays & Saturdays with Host Chad, 8pm-12am

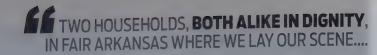
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on screen



MOVIE REVIEW - INDIE - BY MICHAEL MCNICHOL 1612 words

Let's Play The Feud!



Brothers In Firearms | You can practically small the gunpowder wafting off the screen as you watch Shutgun Stones. PHOTO SUPPLIE

SHOTGUN STORIES' COMMIT-MENT TO ITS CHARACTERS' DESOLATE LIVES DESERVES RESPECT, IF NOT LOVE

SHOTGUN STORIES

Directed by Jeff Nichols, Starring Michael Shannon, Douglas Ligon, Barlow Jacobs, Metro Cinema (Zeidler Hall, The Citadel), July 11, 13-16.

M M M III II

The Hayes brothers can't seem to catch a break. Their father left them when they were young Immediately after, he remarried and had a second family. Their mother is distant, it not downright abusive. Son's wife has left him because of his gambling addiction. Boy and Kid are both homeless and staying in Son's house, and none of them can hold down a decent job for very long. And now, after their father's funeral, they've started a feud with the other Hayes family.

No, this in not a country-and-west

Jeff Nichols' new movie Shotgun Stories is realistic, prairie-flat, fascinating, and more than a little confus ing. The premise sounds as corny as a state fair, and, believe me, it is. But somehow, the hatted between these two sets of half-brothers, the wretchedness of their lives, and the unspoken relationships they cultivate go beyond corny into a human drama that hatte bath search and control.

Ostensibly the story of a blood feud, Shalgun Stories focuses in tensely on the lives of the three abandoned Haves brothers, their hopes, their disappointments, and, ultimately, the family they have created and destroyed. These brothers aren't terribly expressive, instead reserving their emotions and their words with equal ferocity. Anger seems to be the only feeling these "good of boys"

can express freely, although they mostly avoid unnecessary speech. In fact, the script itself seems desolate; almost all of the dialogue has been stripped back to the barest of essentials and the actors have made certain to bring the same spirit to their performances.

As Son, the eldest and most responsible Hayes brother, Michael Shannon creates an amazingly tacturn character, someone whose emotions are so tightly controlled that they cannot help but slip through into his equally clenched face. Douglas Ligon (Boy) and Barlow Jacobs (Kid) are also men of few words, although their younger, more vulnerable characters do occasionally seek advice from their elder brother. All three do admirable jobs creating believable, if not completely sympathetic roughneck brothers

Michael Abbott Jr. is a forceful

presence as Cleaman, the head of the other Hayes family, as are the women of the family, played by the underused Glenda Pannell and Natalie Canerday

For all its silences, Nichols' script has both strong and weak points. There are mysteries never resolved, a past never completely shared with the audience. The story has some of the elements of Shakespearean tragedy ("Two households, both alike in dignity, in fair Arkansas where we lay our scene"), with informers, private loathing becoming public vengeance, and an idea of inevitable violence between two families who were raised to hate each other. Outside its most reserved moments, there are wonderfully comic lines. (Kid's girl-friend, upon hearing that a friend of the family just left, remarks, "Really? We had biology together. He used

blankly and non-judgmentally replies, "Yeah, that's him.")

Unfortunately, for every smart, funny, or emotionally interesting line, there are four lines like Son's warning: "I don't like you. I don't like your family. And if anything happens to one of my brothers, I'll come after all of you." And as the violence between the two sets of brothers escalates, so do some of the more hokey

As I said, I found Shotgun Stories a confusing film. I didn't enjoy it, but I have to respect it. It takes tremendous risks, relying on intense acting and smart direction to rescue it from unsympathetic characters, a neartotal lack of warmth, and frequently cheesy dialogue. And while it doesn't entirely succeed, it creates a world of its own that is believable, interesting, and as sunbaked as the prairie



Jason Statham? Heist picture? Naked pictures of Princess Margaret? This one's got it all... and isn't it nice to see Jason Statham in a good movie for a change? He plays Terry Leather, a not-especially-illustrious criminal in 1971 London who's recruited by an old gidfriend to pull off what would turn out to be the buggest bank robbery in British history. The plot is complex without being convoluted, and the fact that it's based on a true incident adds an extra frisson of delight. OINKOINK!

DVD DICTATOR · THE MOVIES YOU MUST BUY THIS TUESDAY

CAST | Christina Ricci, James McAvoy, Catherine
O'Hara, Reese Witherspoon

In just a couple of years, James McAvoy has played the onscreen lover of Keira Knight-ley (Atonement), Angelina Jolie (Wanted), and Anne Hathaway (Becoming Jane). Who knew limid Mr. Tumnus the faun was so desirable to the opposite sex? (And the opposite species?) Perhaps McAvoy's most unusual onscreen partner was Christina Ricci in this whirmsical fairytale, playing an heiress cursed with the nose of a pig. And you know what? It kind of looks good on her.

HONK HONK

TraficCAST | Jacques Tati

Many reviews of Pixar's new animated feature Wall-E have compared its mostly silent first half to the work of French actor/director Jacques Tati. If you'd like more insight into what the hell those brainy critics are talking about, Criterion is here to help, with a double-disc edition of Tati's 1971 comedy, the final film to feature his signature character. M. Hulot. This one's a satire on the modern obsession with automobiles; don't expect bellylaughs, but prepare yourself to marvel at Tati's intricately worked out visual gags.



Nobody's Vault But My Own | Jason Statham steals millions of pounds in lewels... and the heart of neist-movie lans everywhe

MOVIE REVIEW - HEY, VERNE! - BY NICOLA SIMPSON KHULLAR | 501 words

Esprit De Core



TAKE THIS JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH. AND YOU'LL FORGET YOU WERE **EVEN THERE A MONTH LATER**

IOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH Directed by Eric Brevia, Starring Brendan Fraser, Josh Hutcherson Anita Briem Opens Fri July 11 由由企业企

It's refreshing to see a family-friendly movie these days that doesn't treat kids as passive receptacles for product tie-in advertising. It's even more refreshing to see it in 3D. The former is better than the latter, of course, unless you like to see the Ford logo jumping out of the screen.

In Journey to the Center of the Earth, Brendan Fraser plays eagerbeaver geologist Trevor Anderson (not to be confused with eager-beaver

local filmmaker Trevor Anderson). who gets saddled with his 13-yearold nephew Sean (Josh Hutcherson). Thanks to a bunch of coincidences in the lab, they're soon tearing off to Iceland in hopes of learning the fate of Trevor's brother/Sean's dad. Of course, that means basically falling ass-backward into the centre of the earth with the help of spunky guide Hannah (Anita Briem), and then trying to get out again.

Actually, Journey isn't as dumb as it sounds. Its biggest problem is that a month from now, I'll have completely forgotten 1 saw it. Predictable, enjoyable, entertaining, and absolutely forgettable.

For anyone unfamiliar with the original Jules Verne story (which is nicely dovetailed into the movie). we're talking about an adventure in a

world within our world, full of mystery and wonder. If you can get past How do jungles grow without sunlight?), it's just a fun ride. Literally. There's an amusement-park quality

dan Fraser's popular, incredibly crappy action series." -Ed.| Well, it's kind of like comparing nectarines and peaches. Both have pits, but ney to the Center of the Earth has no sex or violence, but still lots of action. It's more for kids than adults, but Well, except for all those giant insects flying at my freaking head in Yes, the effects are good. I haven't

later this summer)? [Actually, I believe I referred to it as "Bren-

watched a movie in 3D since I was a kid, and the technology has vastly need the glasses, so don't turn them down when the ushers offer them to fects work well with the story, which is more than I can say for the story

pecially in times of crisis. Example: Sean: "Haven't you ever seen a di-

But hey, kids will like it. And for all the mystical journey crap that goes

HOW CAN AN UNDERGROUND OCEAN HAVE TIDES? HOW DO JUNGLES GROW WITHOUT SUNLIGHT?

to the movie, but without the hyperpromotional inevitability to it. (Cough... Indiana Jones... Cough,

But, as Big Paul Matwychuk asked me, how would I compare it to The Mummy, Brendan Fraser's popular action series (the third installment of which will be released

on, and all the blather about exploring the nature of the inner beast that is our planet, yada yada yada, it's still a fun family movie that might get

And you won't have to buy the Happy Meal for the toy, which is just

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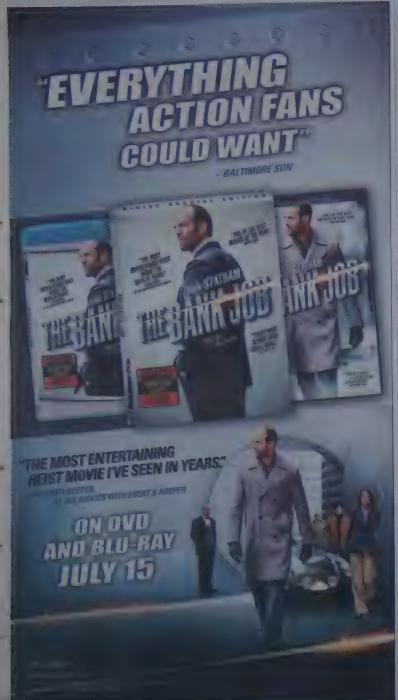
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Making Torrenters Of Foreigners



TELEPROMPTER NICOLASIMPS ON KHULLAR CRTG STUDY REVEALS THAT TV NETWORKS DOWN SOUTH INDIRECTLY ENCOURAGE FILESHARING UP NORTH

Last week an illuminating report was released by Two Solitudes Consulting, who were commissioned by the CRTC. It reveals that there are far fewer Canadian TV programs available online than American programs, and that the lack of Canadian shows on the net is forcing people to search for them underground on illicit file-sharing websites.

What a shocker. Gee, I hope the CRTC didn't pay much for this study

The research, which is about six months old now, shows that between 52 and 80 per cent of American prime-time (non-news) shows are available online, compared to only 24 per cent from CTV and just 15 per cent from Global.

But these numbers can be pretty misleading, especially when you stop to think that only about 15 per cent of Global's programming overall might actually be Canadian. It's not a surprise that if you can watch Big Brother at CBS's website, that you might not also be able to download if from Global

The problem isn't that Canadian broadcasters aren't putting material online, but that the American networks continue to geo-block fans north of the border. And until that situation is sorted out (read: never), TV fans up here will continue to get their shows however they can.

I'm one of the few TV fans left who doesn't download anything. Yes, I'm a freak. Some say it's thanks to weird, misplaced ethics, but it's mostly just because I'm a lazy Luddite. I need to set some limits for myself, or I'll be watching ancient episodes of Bewitched instead of doing actual work on the computer.

What can I say? I'm one in a mil-

Also last week, Canada's largest telecommunications company, BCE Ltd. (owners of CTV and Bell ExpressVu, among other broadcasting companies), agreed on a sticker price of \$51.7 billion, to be paid by the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan.

Yes, if you haven't already heard about this, Canada's largest private

broadcaster is going to be owned in part by my niece's Grade 4 teacher in Waterloo. Weird. This is clearly a financial grab by the Pension Fund, but what does it mean for programming? Hopefully nothing, as most creative development positions are expected to stay in the same classroom instead of skipping a grade.

It's likely a better buy than hedge funds or pork bellies. According to the CRTC, cable revenues went up 16.1 per cent last year, and satellite revenues increased by 11.4 per cent. Pre-tax profits for satellite and wireless operators (such as Bell Express-Vu) bloomed by 153.6 per cent in 2007, compared to the \$32 million loss posted in 2006.

Hey, those who can't do, teach. And retire early, apparently.

In L.A. this week is the semi-annual Television Critics Association press tour, where TV critics and journalists get to corner network execs and

I NEED TO SET SOME LIMITS FOR MYSELF, OR I'LL BE WATCHING ANCIENT EPISODES OF BEWITCHED INSTEAD OF DOING ACTUAL WORK ON THE

showrunners and grill them about the upcoming season. Unfortunately, I am not a member, and SEE doesn't have the shekels to send me to L.A. to bask in celebrity.

But I'm curious to see how it goes this year. We just finished one of the most awkward, stunted seasons in history, and the effects of the writers' strike are still rippling through the industry. Only 16 new series are being premiered this fall by the major networks, about half the number we'd normally see. And we're still facing the prospect of an actors strike later this summer, which could put everything on the back burner yet again.

So the TCA press junket will probably involve a lot of "I dunno" and "No comment" responses to sincere journalistic questions. That's in between the drinking and field trips to the sets of Mad Men and Dollhouse. No, I'm not jealous, not at all. Okay. fine, I'd kill to see the set dec at Sterling Cooper.

And, as usual, the shows that critics are buzzing about are on cable networks we Canadians don't have access to, such as Burn Notice (which airs on the USA Network) and Generation Kill (which is David Simon's new show for HBO).

But if we're lucky, we'll all get to download them soon.

MOVIE REVIEW - MOUNTAINEERING - BY MICHAEL HINGSTON | 516 words

Once Upon A Climb In The West



Making Molehills Out Of Mountains | Thomas Huber continues his lifelong war against gravity (and shirts) in To the Limit. PHOTO SUPPLIED

TO THE LIMIT SCALES THE HEIGHTS OF DOCUMENTARY INEPTITUDE... AND IS THAT FOOTAGE EVEN REAL?

TO THE LIMIT

Directed by Pepe Danquart. Metro Cinema (Zeidler Hall, The Citadel). July 11, 13-16.

★★☆☆☆

"It's such a wicked wall."

"Should we tackle it tomorrow?"

"We'll boulder a bit first."

This subtitled exchange is our in-

Germany, like I'd assumed) until I read the press kit afterwards. Danquart sabotages his subject so thoroughly that it's almost perversely admirable.

Even worse, though, is that that initial dialogue is as profound as the Hübers get, and they're pretty much the only voices we hear over the course of 96 long minutes. It's not that they're idiots, or even fundamentally unlikable; it's that they're in dire need of marrator. Mostly I wanted someone to pop

cuts back for a wide shot? For that matter, how does he even have a wide shot from 700 metres off the ground?

At the risk of bald-facedly accusing the director of staging these scenes. I'll simply point out that the only instances where the film doesn't have the perfect footage (or any footage at all) are the two times that Alexander slips and falls—in other words, the two times that something genuinely spontaneous happens. None of those six cameras shot even a hint of

I WANTED SOMEONE TO POP UP, PICTURE-IN-PICTURE, AND TRANSLATE THE HÜBERS' CLIMBING LINGO INTO STANDARD ENGLISH. SIMULCLIMB I CAN GUESS AT, BUT JUMAR? BIVOUAC? IS IT GOOD OR BAD THAT A MOUNTAIN HAS KING SWING?

troduction to the brothers Hüber, Thomas and Alexander, in Pepe Danquart's speed-climbing documentary *To the Limit*. After years of training, the stubbly, bandana-sporting Hübers travel from their native Germany to challenge the world record for scaling the 1,000-metre 'Nose' face of El Capitan in California's Yosemite Valley.

Simple enough, right? Well, To the Limit somehow manages to take that straightforward premise and turn it into a confusing, pretentious mess. Even the most basic facts get muddled: I didn't understand that Thomas and Alexander were brothers until the film was more than halfway over, and I didn't understand that Yosemite Valley was in California (and not

up, picture-in-picture, and translate their climbing lingo into Standard English. Simulclimb I can guess at, but jumar? Bivouac? Is it good or bad that a mountain has King Swing? Surely Danquart knows, but he isn't telling.

As for the actual climbing footage, which will undoubtedly be the film's biggest selling point for climbing fans, it's dizzying and beautiful—suspiciously so. Remember, the Hübers are among the quickest and most talented rock climbers in the world. How are the cameras (at least six, by my estimate) able to tag along so effortlessly, getting multiple closeups from multiple angles, only to then reveal just the two brothers on a blank rock face when Danquart

either fall? Either way, the replacement footage, of a boulder melodramatically hitting a canyon floor in slow motion, is a poor substitute for what should have been the film's emotional centrepiece.

Questions of authenticity aside, that climbing footage is about the only thing *To the Limit* has to offer; in it, the Hübers do indeed look like world-class athletes. The rest of it, however, is pure dead weight, a mishmash of filmsy plot devices and half-baked outdoorsman philosophy. When a woman (their mother? A friend? A wife? Who knows?) asks Thomas why he does it, he says, in total seriousness, "I have to." Fortunately, audiences are under no such obligation to watch him.





MOVIE GUIDE WHAT'S PLAYING IN THE THEATRES



Get Shorty | Miniature space aliens control Eddle Murphy's body in Meet Dave. Sigh. PHOTO SUPPLIED

OPENING THIS WEEK

ALIEN.

Sigourney Weaver, Tom Skerritt, Yaphet Kotto, Ian Holm, and John Hurt star in Blade Runner director Ridley Scott's 1979 sci-fi/horror classic about an alien lifeform wreaking havoc on an interstellar mining ship. Metro

Sigourney Weaver, Paul Reiser, Michael Biehn, and Lance Henriksen star im The Terminator director James Cameron's 1986 serines battle an army of the alien monsters that wiped out her crewmates 57 years earlier. Metro Cinema: Sun, July 13 (4:10pm)

HELLBOY II: THE GOLDEN ARMY

Ron Perlman, Selma Blair, Doug Jones, and John Hurt star in director Guillermo Del Toro's sequel to his fanciful 2004 comic-book action picture, in which the cigar-chomping, red-skinned demon must stop the powermad son of the Woodland King from defeating humankind with his army of mythical

JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH

Brendan Fraser, Josh Hutcherson, Anita

Briem, and Seth Meyers star in director Eric Brevig's 3D adventure about a discredited scientist who discovers a portal into an amazing world inside the Earth's core while on a search for his missing brother. Based on the novel by Jules Verne.

MEET DAVE

Eddie Murphy, Elizabeth Banks. Gabrielle Union, and Scott Caan star in Norbit director Brian Robbins' comedy about a crew of miniature aliens whose mission to save their home planet hits a snag when their human-

MONTY PYTHON AND THE HOLY GRAIL

Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Michael Palin, Eric Idle, and Terry Jones (who also codirected with Terry Gilliam) star in the zany British comedy troupe's insanely quotable 1975 spoof of the King Arthur legend.

MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN

Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Michael Palin, Eric Idle, and Terry Jones (who also directed) star in this classic 1979 comedy about an ordinary Jewish man in Roman-occuped Judea who is mistaken for the messiah. when in fact he's just a very naughty boy.

SHOTGHIN STORIES

Michael Shannon, Douglas Ligon, and Barlow Jacobs star in writer/director Jeff Nichols' acclaimed indie drama, set in southeast

Arkansas, about the violent feud that erupts hetween two sets of half-brothers following the death of their father. Metro Cinema: July 11, 13-16 (Mon. Wed @ 7pm; Fri, Sat, Tue @ 9pm)

TOTHELIMIT

Director Pepe Danquart's documentary about world-class speed rock climbers Thomas and Alexander Hüber and their attempt to set m new speed record for climing "The Nose" of El Capitan in Yosemite Park. In German with English subtitles. Screening with the animated short When the Day Breaks. Metro Cinema: July 11, 13-16 (Fri, Sat, Tue @ 7pm; Mon, Wed @ 9pm)

WEEK-END IN HAVANA

Alice Fave, John Payne, Carmen Miranda, and Cesar Romero star in The King and I director Walter Lang's musical comedy about a cruise line employee who is instructed to take a dissatisfied customer on a dream vacation to Havana, only to find himself falling in love with her. Royal Alberta Museum: Mon.

ALSO PLAYING

GLOBAL METAL

Is heavy metal the universal language? This fun, albeit workmanlike documentary, which visits the extreme metal scenes in such unsuggests that it is.

This superhero satire has been sold and marketed like another Will Smith mass audience blockbuster but its dark tone and abrupt plot reversals will only appeal to a few moviegoers. Will you be one of them? We sure were, despite its flaws.

KIT KITTREDGE: AN AMERICAN GIRL

It may have been inspired by a line of dolls, but this kiddie movie by Canadian director Patricia Rozema (of I've Heard the Mermaids Singing fame) presents a more sophisticated, nuanced portrait of life in the Depression than "adult" movies like Cinderella Man and Seabiscuit put together. A small miracle.

KLING FU PANDA

Jack Black: you are hereby forgiven for Shark Tale. This animated underdog (underbear?) adventure is predictable, sure, but full of playful fight scenes, great visuals, and obvious affection for the conventions of the martial-arts genre.

MONGOL

If you like watching warriors on horseback galloping across a widescreen sunset, boy are you in for a treat! The production values are top-notch, but this is still a dull, square epic whose attempts to portray Genghis Khan as a misunderstood family man are... well, unconvincing at best. *****

WALL-F

Tremendous even by Pixar's impossibly high standards, Just don't let it fool you into renting the movie version of Hello, Dolly!-that

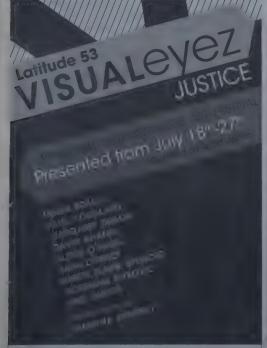
WANTED

Shallow, flashy, and kind of morally reprehensible. But Angelina Jolie is always fun to watch when she's in slinky-maneater mode. and so we'll give this one a summer pass. ****

THE YEAR MY PARENTS WENT ON VACATION

This sweet little Brazilian heartwarmer, set in 1970, about a little boy who's informally adopted by São Paulo's Jewish community when his leftist parents are "disappeared," is fairly predictable, but the visual eye of director Cao Hamburger elevates the material above easy sentimentality.

★★★☆☆















Mongol

Nightly 6:50 & 9:10 pm

Sat, Sun & Tuesday Matinees @ 2:00 pm

Visit us online @

FYOND THE BLURBS · ALTERNATIVE CRITICS HAVE THEIR SAY



THIS WEEK: A DISSENTER **RAISES HIS VOICE ON** HELLBOY II

John Anderson, Variety | "The hipster hit of the

James Rocchi, Cinematical | "An absolute knockout."

as good as it gets in the fantastical hor-

wit, invention, soul, visual economy, emotional gravitas. The monsters are beautifully particular, the performances have warmth and authority, and the camerawork and the cutting are grabby and fast but this side of hyper.

"The problem is this: I'm sick to death of watching stuff getting wrecked and smashed and shattered and blown into a million pieces. I hate the rigid big-studio Jeffrey Wells, Hollywood Elsewhere | "Seeing FX formula that insists upon confronta-Hellboy II the other night reminded me tion and chaos and ruination happening wall of glass or a concrete bunker? How that the films of Guillermo del Toro are every 20 or 30 minutes, like some stupid whammy chart. Windows exploded, ror realm. They've got first-class effects, buildings decimated, cars doing aerial

triple-flips, fire hydrants spewing tons of city water, industrial clutter everywhere.... What the fuck is this? It's the same shit in every movie, and it vacuums your soul.

"What kind of cretin do you have to be to find this stuff interesting after it's been repeated 25 or 30 times? How many times can the dumbest moviegoer out there go 'Whoa!' after seeing a superhero wallop a slime-covered monster and send it flying several hundred yards into a building or a many times can the hero take a severe beating to the extent that it looks like he's finished? How many times can a slither-

ing, disgusting alien creature try to eat or invade or flatten the heroes? How many times can a moron with a extra-large tub of popcorn in his lap be impressed with loud aural thumpings on the soundtrack?

"Guillermo does everything he can to add feeling and humor and humanity to Hellboy II, and he succeeds nicely from time to time, but he's working within a genre that insists upon showing the same shit over and over no matter what and no end in sight. How can people can sit through the same demolition derby in film after film, over and over, year after year? It's insane."



Scotiabank Theatre Edmonton with IMAX®

SHOWTIMES JULY 10-16, 2008

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THE DARK KHIGHT Machight Bhar 17001 No posses CETY CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CENTRE CE	I A G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G
THE DARK KHIGHT Machingth Then 17001 No posses CITY CENTRE © CINEMAS SIDE (1000 PRESS 11 101 1, 15 107,201 - 427,197) 10 HELBOY II: THE COLOMA ARMY Februs 12-50, 355, 659, 955 Windows III possos HACLOOY II: THE COLOMA CONTROL (1000 PRESS 11 1000 PRES	A G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G
THE DARK KHIGHT Machight Biss 17 201 Ma posses CETY CENTRE ♥ CINEMAS 308 (1000 P1058 1, 101 y, 5 107,201 ± 427,17076 MCLEOV II. HIT COLOUR ARMY Follow 12-50, 355, 549, 955 Windows III. possor HAMCOCK Follow 1,00, 400, 740, 9-50. (Index contest, solvens, corne lengue) Tolouries To The CENTRE OF THE EARTH 30 Follow 12-55, 325, 645, 910 Windows III. possor HAMTOCK WANTED 18 The Inc. CELOURIES TO 1, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100,	A G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G G
THE DARK KHIGHT Makegive Boar 1201 Me posses CETY CENTITE 9 CINEMAS 300 from PassS 11, 101 g. 10 g.	A G G A G G A G G G A G G G G G G G G G
THE DARK KHIGHT Makegive Boar 1201 Me posses CETY CENTITE 9 CINEMAS 300 from PassS 11, 101 g. 10 g.	A GO A GO A A A GO A A A GO A A A GO
THE DARK KHIGHT Marging Their 1201 Me posses CITY CENTRE CINEMAS SIN (1000 PRISS III, 101 J. 10 102.007. **RELIBOV II: THE COLDEN ARMY Fellbun 12-20, 355, 650, 955 Windows III possos RELIBOV III: THE COLDEN ARMY Fellbun 12-20, 355, 650, 955 Windows III possos Fellbun 12-20, 355, 650, 955 Windows III possos Fellbun 12-20, 355, 645, 910, Windows III possos Fellbun 12-20, 355, 640, 900 Geny zemin, build violence. THE INCREDIBLE HULK Fellbun 12-20, 315, 440, 900 Geny zemin, build violence. THE INCREDIBLE HULK Fellbun 12-20, 300, 70, 9 +85, bes 12-25, 300, 945, wed. PEllbun 13-15, 330, 745, 943 Fellbun 13-15, 330, 753, 945 Fellbun 13-15, 335, 715, 935 GET SMART Fellbun 11-10, 345, 635, 920, Wed 1-10, 3.45 Corne language violence.	A GO A GO A A A GO A A A GO A A A GO
THE DARK KHIGHT Machingthe Then 17001 Me posses CETY CENTITE ♥ CINEMAS SIGN 10002 PASSES 11. 101 g. 1 1012 aft 1 - 421 7 1020 HELBOY II: "HE COLOUR ARMY Follow 12. 50, 555, 559, 955 Statence to posses HANCOCK Follow 100, 400, 7:80, 9-90 Grade content, solvenar, cores lenguary Follows 12. 545, 525, 645, 910 Weld films 12.45, 325, 645, 910 Bis protes No experimental for young databan WANTED THE INCREDIBLE HULK Follows 12. 50, 300, 7:05, 7:45, bes 12.25, 3:00, 9.45, well TEXTS. 3. 300, 430, 9.30 MINET DAVE PERSON 110, 345, 635, 920, Med 1.10, 3.45 Coerne language violence. PERSON 110, 345, 635, 920, Med 1.10, 3.45 Coerne language violence.	A G A G A G A G A G A G A G A G A G A G
THE DARK KINGHT Machager Boar 1201 Me posses CITY CENTITE ♥ CINEMAS 305 1000 PASSE 1, 101 2, 2 102 Mr. ◆217020 HELBOY II: HE COLOUR ARMY Follow 1250, 355, 559, 955 Vindence list posses HAMCOCK Follow 1, 00, 400, 7:80, 9-90 Grade contest, solvense, comps listinguage Follows 1254, 325, 445, 910, Wed-Him-12745, 325, 445, 910 Esponses Nonstmende for young distinguage WANTED THE INCEDIBLE MULK Follows 1275, 310, 7:05, *45, bes 12:25, 300, 945, Wed 12:25, 330 This ham 12:15, 310, 430, 930 MILET ONE MILET ONE Prichas, Inc. 13, 10, 345, 435, 920, Wed 1.10, 3 45 Corne language violence. Prichas, Inc. 13, 10, 345, 435, 920, Wed 1.10, 3 45 Corne language violence.	A G A G A G A G A G A G A G A G A G A G
THE DARK KINGHT Makegier Boar 1700 Me posses CETY CENTIFE S CINNENAS STORY GENTIFE S CINNENAS STORY GENTIFE S CINNENAS HELBOY II: "HE COLOUR ARRY Follow 1250, 355, 559, 955 Valence Big posses HACHOOK Frotina 100, 400, 740, 950 Goode contest, solderon, coarse longues DOWNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH 30 P Follow 1255, 252, 645, 710, Heldware 1245, 325, 645, 910 Big posses to engineerable for passes posted WANTED To them 1270, 315, 40, 700, 609 zones; build violence. THE WICKERDER HULK Follow 1275, 300, 705, 945; bes 1225, 300, 945, Wed 1225, 300 SEX AND THE CITY Follow 115, 335, 715, 935. GET SMARX Follow 1274, 320, 710, 740 Helbank 1274, 330, 435, 635, 970, Wed 1-10, 345 Control longues Violence. THE DARK KNIGHT STIMMING STORY 100, 100, 100 THE DARK KNIGHT STIMMING STORY 100, 100, 100 THE DARK KNIGHT STIMMING STORY 100, 100, 100 STORY 100, 100, 100, 100, 940 THE DARK KNIGHT STIMMING STORY 100, 100, 100, 100 STIMMING STORY 100, 100, 100, 100 STIMMING STORY 100, 100, 100, 100, 100 STIMMING STORY 100, 100, 100, 100, 100 THE DARK KNIGHT STIMMING STORY 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100	A G A G A G A G A G A G A G A G A G A G

Fri-Thurs 1:30, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00.	
GET SMART Fri-liturs 1:40, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40. Coarse tanguage, violence.	PG
FHE LOVE GURU Fri-Sun, Tues-Thors 1: fq5; Reel Bables Mon 1:00.	T4A
WANTED Fri Thurs 1:10, 3:45, 7:25, 9:45 Gory scenes brutel violence	18A
WALL-E	G
Fn-lhurs 1:50, 4:20, 7:10, 9:35. HANCOCK	PG
Fri-Thurs 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:55. Crude content, violence, language	COOPS
INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKU Fis-Thurs 3:40, 6:35, 9:15 Violenco, Inghtening scenes.	LL 18A
KIT KITTREDGE: AN AMERICAN GIRL Frithus 12:50, 3:50	PG
HELLBOY II: THE GOLDEN ARMY Fn-Thurs 1 00, 4:00, 6:40, 9:30 Violence No posses	14A
MEET DAYE	PG
fn-Thurs 12:40, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50	
JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH 3D fri-Thurs 1:20,4:10, 7:00, 9:20. Not recommended for young did No passes.	PG dren
THE DARK KNIGHT Midsight Thurs 12:01 No posses	STC
WESTMOUNT CENTRE CINEM	ΔS
111 AVENUE & GROAD ROAD = 455-8726	
WALL-E frl-Thors 1:00, 3:40, 7:00, 9:30	G
WANTED Fri-Thats 1:10, 3 IIII 6:50, 9:20. Gory stenes, british violence.	18A
HANCOCK fri-Thurs 12:50, 3:20, 7:15, 9:40	PG
Crude content, violence, coarse language	
CET CMADT	D.C
GET SMART FirThers 17:40, 3.10, 6:40, 9:10, Coarse language, violence	PG
FriTers 17:40 3.10 6 40, 9:10 Coarse language, violence SCOTIABANK THEATRE	
First 17:40 3.10 5:40, 9:10 Coarse language, wolence SCOTIABANK THEATRE WEST COMONTON MALE • 8632-170 STREET • 444-240	
FeThers 12:40 3.10 5.40.910 Course Inspirage, widence SCOTIABANK THEATRE WEST EDMONTON MAIL - 8892-170 STREET - 446-2401 JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH foliates 12:15, 2-40, 5-80, 7-30, 10-10 Vederice.	PG
ForTher 17 40 - 3 10 - 4 (0, 94) 0. Consentanguage, woldens SCOTIABANIK THEAT/TEE WEST COMMITTEE SERVEY 1 - MAGESTATE JOURNEY TO THE CANTER OF THE EARTH forthan 12 15, 2-40, 5 00, 7 30, 10 10 Volunce. MEET DAVE Forthans 12 (5), 2-20, 4 5 (0, 0 00, 10 25 No goods	
Forther 1740 3.0 o. 40, P10 Come largose, solenze SCOTIADANK THEATRE WEST REMOVAL - 8002-170 STRET * 46-200 DOI: 10.0 THE GATTH Fofther 17.15, 2-40, 3-40, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.15, 2-40, 3-40, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.15, 2-40, 3-40, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.15, 2-70, 4-50, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.15, 2-70, 1-60, 1-40 Fofther 17.10, 1-40, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.10, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.10, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.10, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.10, 1-40 Fofther 17.1	PG
Fathers 17-40 - 3 (0 - 5 40) - 910 (Come language, solense. SCOTIADANNE THE ATTRE WEST IRRUMINION MAIL + 5802-17-5 (SEET + 446-240) JOURNET TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH Follows 17-5 (5-70) - 500, 7-30, 10-10 Vederor. MET DAYE Follows 17-5 (5-70) - 500, 7-30, 10-10 Vederor. MET DAYE Follows 17-5 (5-70) - 500, 7-30, 10-10 Vederor. MET DAYE Follows 17-10 (5-70) - 10-10 Vederor. MET DAYE Follows 17-10 (5-70) - 10-10 Vederor. MET DAYE Follows 17-10 (5-70) - 10-10 Vederor. MET DAYE FOLLOWS 17-10 (1-70) - 1	PG PG 14A PG
Forther 1740 3.0 o. 40, P10 Come largose, solenze SCOTIADANK THEATRE WEST REMOVAL - 8002-170 STRET * 46-200 DOI: 10.0 THE GATTH Fofther 17.15, 2-40, 3-40, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.15, 2-40, 3-40, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.15, 2-40, 3-40, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.15, 2-70, 4-50, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.15, 2-70, 1-60, 1-40 Fofther 17.10, 1-40, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.10, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.10, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.10, 1-40, 1-40 Fofther 17.10, 1-40 Fofther 17.1	PG PG 14A PG 10:15:
STM:1740. 310. 9.40. 910. Come targoses, soleton: **SCOTIADANK THEATRE** WIST SIRROMINE MAIL ** 80827-1/5 SERE* ** 446-200 DOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH FORTH 127. 52. 94. 50. 97. 73.0 10. 10. Vederox. MET DAY* FORTH 127. 93. 95. 00. 73.0 10. 10. Vederox. MET DAY* FORTH 127. 93. 95. 00. 71. 93. Vederox. 10. proces. HELLBOY IE: THY GOLDEN ARMY FORTH 127. 93. 95. 70. 10. 10. 30. Vederox. 10. proces. HAMCOCK FORTH 127. 93. 95. 00. 10. 93. Vederox. 10. proces. FORTH 127. 93. 95. 00. 10. 93. Vederox. 10. proces. WALLEY	PG PG 14A PG 10:15; Strollers
STM-1740 3.10 ±0.00 **10 (come largoses, volenza **SCOTIADANK THEATRE WEST BROWNING MAIL ** \$80.21 **() 5 (SEET ** 446-200 **DOURNEY TO THE CHATTRE OF THE EARTH 500 TAS 10 **() 500 7.30 (10 10 Volenza **MET DAVE **500 7.30 (10 10 Volenza **MET DAVE **500 7.30 (10 10 Volenza **MET DAVE **500 7.00 1.03 Volence **No process **HALMOO' IT: THE GOLDEN AARW **500 7.00 (10 30 Volence **No process **MAIL **THE TOTAL STATE **STATE	PG PG 14A PG 10:15; Strollers
Forther 1740 3.0 o 40, 910 Come largoses, volence SCOTIADANK THEATRE WEST REMOVED AND THE FARTH WEST REMOVED AND THE FARTH FORTHER TO THE CHAPTER OF THE FARTH FORTHER 175, 276, 250, 730, 10 to Verlows. MEET DAY FORTHER 170, 370, 250, 500, 10, 25 No proces- HILBOY IR: THE GOLDEN ARRY FORTHER 170, 370, 270, 10, 10 30 Verlows. No proces- HAMCOCK FORTHER 170, 370, 700, 10 30 Verlow. No proces- HAMCOCK WALLE WALLE FORTHER 150, 230, 550, 730, 10, 00, Web 12 00, 700, 4 2 10, 00 Then 150, 215, 430, 700, 740 WALTE Follow 1150, 230, 550, 730, 10, 00, Web 12 00, 700, 4 2 10, 00 Then 150, 215, 430, 700, 730 WANTED Follow 155, 250, 750, 10, 46, 649 xerses, hand referee.	PG PG 14A PG 10:15; Strollers G 0, 7:00,
Faithman 1740 3.01 o 400, Phil Come language, soletical SCOTTADANIK THEATRE WISS IRRUMINION MAIL + 80021-107 STREET + 446-2400 JOURNAY TO THE CHATTER OF THE HARTH STORM TO THE CHATTER OF THE HARTH STORM TO THE CHATTER OF THE HARTH STORM TO THE THE CHATTER OF THE HARTH STORM THE THE COLOR HARTH STORM THE THE CHATTER OF THE HARTH STORM THE THE CHATTER OF THE HARTH STORM THE THE CHATTER OF THE HARTH STORM THE CHATTER OF THE CHA	PG 14A PG 10:15; Stedles G 9, 7:00, 18A
**STREET 19-10 - 310 - 940, P10 Come tangues, volence **SCOTIAD ANK THEATRE WIST GROUNTER MAIL * 8802-17/5 SERT* * 446-240 **DURNEY TO THE CHATTE OF THE EARTH FISHING 1275, 2-90, 5-90, 7-20, 1-10 Volence **MET DAY* FISHING 1275, 2-90, 7-90, 1-90, 1-90 Street **MELLOY III. THE GOLDEN ARMY FISHING 1270, 3-90, 1-90, 1-90 Street **MALON **MANUAL TO THE STREET STREET STREET Fishing 199, 1-90, 1-90, 7-15, 4-90, 4-45, 4-55, 7-70, 9-45 **MELLOY III. THE GOLDEN ARMY **MALE TO THE STREET STREET Fishing 199, 1-90, 1-90, 1-95, 4-90, 4-95, 4-90, 4-95 **MORE 1990, 2-90, 2-70, 1-90, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-70, 1-90, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-70, 1-90, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-70, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-70, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-70, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-70, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-70, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-70, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, Mel 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, Mellow 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, Mellow 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, Mellow 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, Mellow 12-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, 2-90, 4-7 **STREET 1990, 2-90, 2-90, 1-90, 2-90,	PG PG 14A PG 10:15; Steellers G 9, 7:00, 18A PG 14A
STMEN 1740 3.01 & 9.00 PVID Come language, soleton: **SCOTIADANK THEATRE WIST GROUNTER MAIL * 8802.71/5 SERT * 446-200 **DURNEY TO THE CHATTE OF THE EARTH Follows 175, 240 D. 9.07, 230, 10.10 Videos. **MET DAY** **STMEN 170, 25.00 PVID 8.00, 10.27 S. top gross. **MELLOY II: THE GOLDEN ARRY **MELLOY II: THE GOLDEN ARRY **MELLOY II: THE GOLDEN ARRY **MALTED **TOP 1.00, 1.00, 7.15, 4.00, 4.45, 4.55, 7.70, 9.45 **MON 1200, 1.75, 4.00, 4.45, 4.45, 7.70, 9.45 **MON 1200, 1.75, 4.00, 1.70, 1.00, 0.00 **MALTED **STMEN 150, 2.15, 4.30, 7.00, 1.00, 0.00 **STMEN 150, 2.15, 4.30, 7.00, 0.00 **STMEN 150, 2.15, 4.30, 7.00 **STMEN 150, 2.15, 4.00 **MON 150, 7.45, 1.00 **	PG PG 144A PG 144A PG
STMEN 1740 3.10 \$40,910 Come tanguage, solena: **SCOTIADANK THEATRE WIST GROUNTER MAIL ** 8822.715 SERT ** 446-200 DOURNEY TO THE CHITE OF THE EARTH Follows 125, 240, 500, 72.0, 10.0 Vederox MEET DAY* Follows 125, 240, 70.0, 10.0 3 Vederox HILLION IS THE GOLDEN ARRY FOLIAND 170, 10.0, 715, 400, 445, 445, 720, 945 HIMO 200, 155, 400, 445, 445, 720, 945, 10.15, 5on & STORING WIST 100, 1400 715, 400, 445, 445, 720, 945 HIMO 200, 155, 400, 445, 445, 720, 945, 10.15, 5on & Folians 1150, 2215, 430, 700, 930 WALTE Folians 1150, 2215, 430, 700, 930 **MANTED Folians 1150, 235, 430, 700, 930 **MELOVIC GURU Folians 1150, 235, 430, 700, 930 **MELOVIC GURU Folians 125, 745, 10.20, Coore language, indience THE LOVIC GURU Folians 200, 330, 430, 930, 930 Vederox, inglitering scenes KUNG ET PANDA ***CHING 175, 230, 530, 730, 930 Vederox, inglitering scenes KUNG ET PANDA ****CHING 220, 330, 330, 930 Vederox, inglitering scenes KUNG ET PANDA	PG PG 14A PG 9, 700, 18A PG
STIMEN 1740 3.10 \$40,910 Come language, volence **SCOTIADANK THEATRE WIST GROWNING MAIL ** 8022-1/5 SERT* ** 446-200 **DOURNEY TO THE CHATTRE OF THE CHATTHE *STEPPIN 170 THE CHATTRE OF THE CHATTHE ***MET DAVE ***Fillman 1205, 205, 007, 201, 10 10 V/5 Map person. ***MELLOY III: PHY GOLDEN ARMY **Fillman 1201, 200, 716, 100, 445, 445, 445, 720, 945 ***MANTED ***MALES ***	PG PG 144A PG PG 180.30.
**STIMEN 1740 .310 .940.910 (come language, volenze SCOTIADANK THEATRE WISS TRANSMITTER WISS TRANSMITTER AND THE HARTH FOR THE H	PG PG 14A PG 10:15; Strellers G 9, 7:00, 18A PG 14A PG 14A PG 14A PG PG 9, 7:00, 18 PG
COTTADANK THEATRE **WEST ROUNDER BY 1992 (17) STREET ** 46-200 **JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH *HORNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH **HORNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH **HORNEY TO THE COLOR ARTH **HORNEY	PG PG 14A PG 10:15; Strellers G 9, 7:00, 18A PG 14A PG 14A PG 14A PG PG 9, 7:00, 18 PG

CINEMA CITY MOVIES 12	
130 AVENUE & 50 STREET • 472-9779	
EXPELLED: NO INTELLIGENCE ALLOWED Fri-Ilburs 1 40, 4:20, 7:40, 10:10	PG
WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS	PG
Fn. Sun-Thers 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30, Sot 1 80, 4:10, 7:10, 9:3	
12 00 Hot recommended for children coarse language	
SPEED RACER	PG
Fri Tour 1.15, 4:00, 6:55, 9:00. THE STONE ANGEL	
Fri, Sun-Thurs 9:25, Sot 9:25,m 11:50. Sexual content.	148
MADE OF HONOR	PG
Fri, Sun-Thurs 1:30, 4:05, 7:00, 9:20, Sal 1:30, 4:05, 7:00, 9:2	
11.30 Sexual content, coarse language. FUGITIVE PIECES	148
# Sun-flurs 1.25, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15; Sot 1:25, 4:15, 6:50, 9:1	
12:05 Sexual content	
HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM GUANTANAMO BAY	18A
Fri. Swo-Thurs 1:50, 4:55, 7:35, 9:55; Soi 1:50, 4:55, 7:35, 9:5; 12:10. Substance obuse, crude content.	
BABY MAMA	PG
Fri, Stor-Rhurs 4:35, 7:20, 10:05; Set 4:35, 7:20, 10:05, 12:15	
Coarse language mature themes	
FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL Fn, Sun-Thurs 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 9:45, Son 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 9:4	18A
12:10 Sexual content.	
THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM	PG
Fig. Sun-Hors 2:05, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00, Set 2:05, 4:50, 7:25, 10:17 20, Violence	00
YOUNG AT HEART	PG
frishus 1:55	ro
NIM'S ISLAND	G
Fri-Thurs 1:50, 4:45, 7:15	
DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO! F6/Hurs 1:35, 4:30, 7:05	G
COLLEGE ROAD TRIP	G
Fri, Sun-Thurs 2 00, 4:40, 7:30, 9:35; Sot 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 9:3	5,
THE BANK JOB	146
Fig. Son-Thurs 9.40; Sat 9.40, 11:55. Violence, nuclity, manure ther	ns.
GALAXY CINEMAS	
2020 SHERWOOD DR., SHERWOOD PARK • 416-0150	
JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH	PG
THE PARTY OF THE PARTY	
Fri-Thurs 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45	
Fd-Titurs 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45 Not recommended for young children.	PG
Fci-Thurs 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45 Not recommended for young children.	PG
FebTurs 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45 Not recommended for young children. MEET DAVE frielhum 12:30, 3:20, 6:50, 9:20, No persons. HELBOY III: THE GOLDEN ARMY	144
FebTurs 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45 Not recommended for young children. MEET DAVE frielhum 12:30, 3:20, 6:50, 9:20, No persons. HELBOY III: THE GOLDEN ARMY	144
FebTurs 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45 Not recommended for young children. MEET DAVE frielhum 12:30, 3:20, 6:50, 9:20, No persons. HELBOY III: THE GOLDEN ARMY	144
Folhur 12 (1), 2-40, 5-00, 7-30, 3-45 bits recommended by young differe MRET BANK 12-30, 3-30, 4-50, 9-20 he process HELIBOY H: THE COLDEN ARMY Fri-Thers 1500, 4-60, 7-300, 10-00. Violence. No presso MRET ARMY COLDEN ARMY COLDEN ARMY COLDEN ARMY COLDEN MRET METERS COLDEN ARMY COLDE	144
Folhun 17 (1) 2-40, 500, 7:59, 9-45 Nat communisal by support differs MRHT DANE MRHT DANE MRHT DANE MRHT DANE MRHT DANE MRHT DANE MRHT DANE MRHT MRHT DANE MRHT DANE	14A s. PG
Folhur 17 (1) 2-40, 5-00, 7-39, 3-45 NAT FOLKY MET FOLK	14A s. PG
Folhun 17 (1) 2-40, 5-00, 7-50, 9-45 Nat memorated by proposed films. MRET DANE MRET	14A s. PG
Folhun 12 (10, 2-40, 5-00, 7-50) 9-45 Nate reasonated by swapped differs MRET GAME MRE	PG PG
Folhum 17 (1), 2-40, 5-00, 7-39, 7-45 MART GAME MET GAME	PG PG
Folhum 12 (10, 2-40, 5-00, 7-30) 9-45 Mate recommended by every children MRET DANE MRE	PG PG
Folhum 17 (1), 2-40, 5-00, 7-39, 3-45 Mate recommended for your clidides MRET GAME MRE	PG PG
Folhum 12 (10, 2-40, 5-00, 7-30) 9-45 Mate recommended by every children MRET DANE MRE	PG PG
Folhum 12 (10, 2-40, 5-00, 7-30, 9-45) Mate recommends for your differs MRET DANE MRET	PG PG PG PG

05, 9:25; motinees daily 1:05, 3:25.

INDIAN



DREW HAYDEN TAYLOR
TELLS YOU EVERYTHING YOU
ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW
ABOUT NATIVE SEXUALITY
(BUT WERE TOO WHITE TO
ASK) IN ME SEXY

ME SEXY: AN EXPLORATION OF NATIVE SEX AND SEXLALITY Edited by Drew Hayden Taylor, Douglas & McIntyre. 192 po. SZZ 95

"I plan to start my own nation," author Drew Hayden Taylor once said in an interview. "Because I am half

Taylor's latest book, the anthology Me Sexy, is "a textbook about some of the most private issues in Native culture" sex, sexuality, and identity. Taylor has assembled 13 essays (ranging in style from the academic to the confessional) from a group of writers that includes Lee Maracle ("First Wives Club: Salish Style"), Tomson Highway ("Why Cree Is the Sexiest of All Languages"), and Daniel Heath Justice ("Fear of a Changeling Moon. A Rather Queer Tale From a Cherokee Hillbilly"), to name just three of the best-known contributors.

was called Me Funny. The connection between the two books primarily is. I was looking at the impression that the dominant culture has of Native people. You know, with Me Funny it was primarily that Native people were the Tragic Indian, the Disappearing Indian, the Vanishing Indian, the Alcoholic Indian. It was all these negative stereotypes of Native peoples that the dominant culture had."

For Taylor, the image of the morose and hopeless First Nations person isn't just wrong and offensive; it

States," he says, "at each one I'd been greeted with a laugh, a smile, and usually a joke! I thought, well, you know, the dominant culture doesn't know about our wonderfully developed sense of humour, which in my opinion has allowed us to survive 500 years of colonization! So, I wanted to put a book together that celebrated that sense of humour. And it was a huge success. It was a lot of fun to do and got a lot of positive response."

Following the success of Me Funny, Taylor published three other books. "I've been very blessed," he says. "I'remember once being on a panel discussion with some people talking about, first of all, how hard it is for a writer to be published, and even how much harder it is for a Native writer to be published. And I remember there were a lot of complaints about the process, which I fully understood, but I have to say, I have been exceptionally blessed by the publishing industry. I've been told that because I approach a lot of topics with humour, it gives it a certain amount of cross-cultural appeal. That's what makes my work, however you want to define it successful."

However, the question of First Nations cultures and the ways in which dominant cultures view them kept nagging at him. "I began thinking, 'Okay, I've done [Native humour]. Now what else does the dominant culture have an incorrect perspective on regarding Native people?' And then it came to me. Sexuality! Because the dominant media usually

Native sexuality."

While Taylor doesn't mean to di minish the pain of residential schools or to belittle the realities of life for First Nations (and other) peoples working in the sex trade, he did want to present a more empowered and positive version of Native sexuality, exploring ideas about sex and race that aren't often talked about in polite (and quietly racist) Canada. "We have the highest birthrate in Canada," Taylor says, "so we must know something about what we're doing in order to achieve that! I wanted to do something again that celebrated the power, the positiveness, of aboriginal sexuality, not the dysfunction that seemed to be existing everywhere."

And "everywhere" is an appropriate word for the people represented in Me Sexy. "When I was putting the book together," Taylor says, "I did try to have as wide a spread of input and perspective [as possible]. I had West Coast, I got Inuit, I got Plains, I got Ojibway."

But more than representing a variety of Nations, Taylor's selection of authors and articles penetrate (no pun intended) a wide variety of sexual experiences. "I think I got a good crosscut spectrum of what's on the mind of the Native community, he says. "Everything from womenfrom men, gay, lesbian, and, obwously, the one about the residential school abuse, too." Indeed, "The Dark Side of Sex" by Marius P. Tungilik is a memoir, a call to action, and an attempt at healing from the political activist and residential school

"I TURNED TO WATCH ONE OF THE HOMELIEST DRAG PERFORMERS I'D EVER SEEN SLINK OUT ONTO STAGE," WRITES DANIEL HEATH JUSTICE,
"DRESSED HEAD TO TOE AS DISNEY'S POCAHONTAS. I SAT THERE IN STUNNED SILENCE AS THE QUEEN BEGAN TO JUMP UP AND DOWN, SINGING
AN OLD-TIME HOLLYWOOD WAR WHOOP, CHANNELING THE SPIRITS OF ALL THE SAVAGE SQUAWS IN BAD TV WESTERNS." THINKING HE HAD
FOUND A PLACE WHERE HE COULD BE SAFE IN HIS SEXUALITY, JUSTICE LEARNED THAT IT WASN'T SAFE FOR HIS RACE.

Ojibway half Caucasian, we will be called the Occasions And of course, since I'm founding the new nation, I will be a special Occasion."

"It's a companion piece to an earher book I did two years ago, exploring and deconstructing the world of Native humour," Taylor explains. "It also distorts the true nature of Firs Nations communities. "Having traveled to over 150 Native communities across Canada and the United only talks about dead hookers in Vancouver or sexual abuse in residential schools or high levels of STDs and, again, a very negative perspective of sexual abuse survivor that, all on its own, makes Me Sexy worth reading

Choosing authors to complement this diverse ideal turned out to be

LUST



surprisingly easy task. "I wrote down my wish list of people I thought either had something interesting to say or could have something interesting to say or who I'd worked with before," Taylor says. "I thought, having spent 20, 25 years in the media universe, the Aboriginal media universe, I sort of knew many writers, knew who had something interesting to say and who would want to participate. So, I just did a wish list and, of my wish list, I think I got 10 of my original 13. The other three I had to augment. But once I contacted people and told them the project, they absolutely loved it and really wanted to participate

And, as with Me Funny, those writers were especially drawn to Taylor's eagerness to treat the subject matter with a playful sense of humour. "Look at the cover of the book," he says, referring to the stylized drawing of a very handsome, shirtless Native man sweeping a very lovely white woman into his arms. "For obvious reasons it's a parody of those historical romance novels, how the romantic person views the Native person-the big, muscular, you know, renegade or son of a chief who sweeps some lost and troubled white woman off of the prairies and they ride off into the sunset.... The definition of beauty is often very culturally oriented in its own way."

That romanticized version of First Nations sexuality is only one of the topics the book addresses. In "Bush Country," Joseph Boyden starts with a memory of a redneck's sexually abusive comments about a particular stereotype about Native women and begins to wonder, "Do Aboriginal women (and men, for that matter) have sparser pubic hair than other races?" Boyden, a humourist as well as a novelist, recounts his attempts to find an answer ("What about placing an ad in a couple of carefully chosen classified sections?") while also wondering why he became so obsessed with finding out whether the stereotype had any basis in fact. Is it just that he "shouldn't ever have let some ass get [him] so worked up"? Or does this instance of hearing a whole race and gender get objectified point to some colonial idea of First Nations people as immature?

Marissa Crazytrain's piece, "Dances for Dollars," is an alternately funny and frustrating memoir of her years as a stripper in downtown Toronto. Between telling stories about particularly disgusting and particularly decent customers, Crazytrain asks, "What can I say about being a Native girl working in an industry that 'objectifies' women?"

Her answer isn't entirely clear. On the one hand, she writes, "If you've got your head on straight, you'll survive; if you don't, you'll become a statistic." On the other, there's race as a potential "selling point" (one Crazytrain didn't use): "I couldn't see myself coming out on stage dressed in a long feather war bonnet and a buckskin bikini accessorized with black-light war paint." And then there's the people who want to "save clear is the need for First Nations sex trade workers to take control of their own sexualities, their own lives, and their own stories.

Each essay tracks a different vertion of sex and race, and a different engagement between Native and non-Native ideas about what is sexy. In his powerful piece on coming out as gay and Cherokee, Daniel Heath Justice tells the story of a drag show where "I turned to watch one of the homeliest drag performers I'd ever seen slink out onto stage, dressed head to toe as Disney's Pocahontas... I sat there in stunned silence as the queen began to jump up and down, singing an old-time Hollywood warwhoop, channeling the spirits of all the savage squaws in bad TV Westerns." Thinking he had found a place where he could be safe in his sexuality, he learned that it wasn't safe for

his race

There are many other examples: Tomson Highway contrasts English and Cree, seeing English as hopelessly prudish; Michelle McGeough offers a very academic reading of the art of First Nations painter Norval Morrisseau; and Nancy Cooper tells a history of (as well as a survival guide for) Native lesbians.

So, what aspect of Native life does

Taylor plan to set the dominant culture straight on next? "I thought about that," he laughs. "After you've had a good belly laugh and sex, where do you go from there? How do. I follow up Me Funny and Me Sexy? Me Gardening? Me Macramé? I can't think of anything that's in the realm of a good laugh and sex. I think this is probably the last of the two for now."



Half Ojibway, Half Caucasian (Drew Hayden Taylor thinks of himself as a special "Occasion." PHOTO SUPPLIED

OUR HOME AND NATIVE GLANDS · CHOICE EXCERPTS FROM MF SEXY

"I sometimes think that, as a stand against Manifest Destiny, as a statement objecting to cultural genocide and Christian indoctrination, to further limit that encroachment of the dominant society's thunderous existence and virus-like contamination, First Nations people around the world should ban the 'missionary position,' in light of the bad historical baggage it carries. Or rechristen the 'Aboriginal position.'"

-Drew Hayden Taylor, "Indian Love Call (Minus Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy)"

"So, although in one language, humankind is forbidden to eat the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge, in the other it is not only permitted, it is encouraged. That is precisely what the goddamn tree is there for, for humanity to suck from its fruit, and suck and suck and suck and suck, thirty times a day if necessary."

-Tomson Highway, "Why Cree Is the Sexiest of All Languages"

"Before I was taken away from my parents to school at the age of five," my family discussed sexuality openly, as I recall. They talked about it both jokingly and seriously. They warned us about incest, sexual relations with animals, rape or sexual assault and sexual relations with close relatives. Sometimes, they clearly had fun joking about sex. After our experience with sex as children and because of the religious perimeters that the missionaries established, sex was hard to talk about or not discussed at all."

—Marius P Tungilik, "The Dark Side of Sex"

"So what is sexy? I have to say that the act itself seems hilarious to me, when I am not engaged in t. There is nothing we do that is so much fun but looks so ridiculous as when two people fumble around, roll around and then bounce up and down on each other, all the while uttering odd grunts and sighs."

- Lee Maracle, "First Wives Club: Salish Style"

Every orgasm can be an act of de-

-Daniel Heath Justice, "Fear of a Changeling Moon: A Rather Queer Tale from a Cherokee Hillbilly"

FESTIVAL REPORT - BUSKER DU - BY SCOTT LINGLEY 1781 words

Where "Offstage" And "Onstage" Have No Meaning



SEE SPENDS A DISCOMBOB-

ULATING, DISORIENTING AFTERNOON AT THE STREET

EDMONTON INTERNATIONAL STREET PERFORMERS FESTIVAL

the Edmonton International Street year, is the way it blurs the edges betainers and whatever else m going on can never be entirely sure what's part

that squad of construction workhats and safety vests are part of the show, especially after you notice that they're stopping cars at the interthe girl in white sunglasses dancing of the mall? The scruffy guy with in a floor-length duster and aviator there's the squealing water ballet transpiring in the background by and representatives of the peoplewithout-means community. Without you in, you scarcely know where to turn your head next.

What's more, any of the people standing next to you might become performers always dragoon some cute kid or nervous-looking guy from

seems to be about 85-90 per cent of any given street performance. American children's performer Captain Arrrrr (who was looking more like a down-at-heel shogun than a pirate when I saw him) had tapped so many volunteers from the audience that he looked like he was leading a fitness class as he invited them to canter and jape with him, while their grunting and thrusting with swords elicited a lot of the laughter that might signal

In this setting, where buskers are separated by mere metres, stirring up crowd reaction is key to luring tarily distracted from other performers in the vicinity. New York-based us a good show if we gave him the applauded in anticipation of how great it was going to get eventually.

Magic Brian also promised that, to repay our generosity, he was going to get out of chains and a straitjacket before. Obviously he could not do this too soon or the show would be over quickly. His delaying tacticssleight-of-hand magic and plenty of back-and-forth with the crowd-were a little more refined than those of Betty Brawn, the Australian strongwoman whose aversions prior to her showstopper had more of a psychout quality. Just when it looked like she was going to finally hoist those two full-grown men in slings yoked across her broad shoulders, she'd strut out from under her burden and strike bodybuilder poses

Nearby the acrobatic English Gents indulged in similar acts of

self-deprecating self-display, though perhaps self-deprecation is the basis for everything you do when you're wearing nothing but a black bowler, sock garters, and Union Jack ginch. The Gents' well-articulated torsos and tiny undergarments were a wry comment on the stereotype of the sexually null, uptight patrician British chap, while the way they effortlessly scaled each other to perform one-handed handstands on top of each others' heads invites all kinds of readings about the foundations of privileged white male-dominated society and its toll on the notion of civilization. And man, you could crack an egg on their asses.

New Zealand working under the name Vinyl Burns sweated off about half his body weight in the remorseless afternoon sun as he boarded an extra-tall unicycle and serenaded the masses on a green guitar. Judging from his exertions, it takes a lot of work to pretend that you don't know how to ride an extra-tall unicycle.

What's really confounding about could squeeze such diverse amusements into a couple of hours of loitering and still have time for a plate of chicken bhoona. And the fourth wall is further dissolved by the fact that everyone gets to proffer criticism in the form of whatever sum they toss into the hat at the end of each show. It's a rare festival where the bargain is decisively in favour of the consumer. Just remember to remain alert at all times-in Churchill Square, you never know from which direction the entertainment is going



ARTS NEWS - NOTABLE HAPPENINGS FROM THE THEATRE TO THE BOOKSTORE

TWO PLAYS!

Not The One With Hugh Laurie

to keep the Fringe spirit alive than Kenneth Brown, who's always developing new work of his own while forming alliances with exciting young actors and writers. He's got two shows hitting the Fringe circuit this year: Daniel MacIvor's House, starring Jon Paterson; and Spiral Dive. a new play about Canadian Spitfire pilots in World War II. He's holding pay-what-you-can fundraising performances of the two shows at the Azimuth this week-Saturday at 8 and Sunday at 2. What say you fly by and, well, pay the man what you can?

Strength In Numbers

A new comedy by Stewart Lemoine is always a special occasion, but A Rocky Night for His Nibs is especially special, simply by virtue of its ginormous cast, which includes Jeff Haslam, Davina Stewart, Mark Meer, Briana Buckmaster... 12 actors in all, Lemoine's biggest since At the Zenith of the Empire. Compare that total against other theatre companies' average cast sizes from last season;

THE CITADEL: 10.45 SHADOW THEATRE: 34 THEATRE NETWORK: 3.0 NORTHERN LIGHT: 3.0 WORKSHOP WEST: 2.0

Even Longer Than Sátántangó!

They call it Cinemathon, but cinema is only one small component of the activities organizer Tim Rechner has lined up at Metro Cinema starting at 7 p.m. this Saturday: collaborative drawing projects, music performances by Field & Stream, Electricity for Everybody!, and The Bummers, DJ sets, food and drink are all also part of the mix. When the smoke clears (that'll be sometime around 3 a.m.), the money raised will go towards Metro's purchase of a high-definition projector. Don't let Edmonton's most eclectic arthouse get left behind in the digital revolution! Buy a \$10 ticket and get your 'thon on!

Dragonball Wheeeeeeee!



ART BOX MANDY ESPEZEL & JILL STANTON DRAGONS ARE AWESOME! AND MUSEUM EXHIBITS ABOUT DRAGONS ARE PRETTY GREAT TOO!

This week, Jill and Mandy journey to the Royal Alberta Museum to discover the mythology, the legend, and the exhibition that is *Dragons: Between Science and Fiction*.

Jill: The first thing that bears saying is, "Holy crap, dragons are awesome!" The Royal Alberta Museum puts on a pretty good show! I know that a lot of people probably haven't visited this place since they were picking their noses in grade school, but I assure you, grown adults can spend three or four hours there easily. When you enter the exhibit, you are faced with a massive, rotating wire sphere/globe dotted with different versions of dragons from across the world. These little dragmakes them look like they're melting-really creepy. But we couldn't stop looking. Automatically knew we were in good hands-right,

Mandy: Oh yes, we surely did. There's no getting around the fact that dragons are fascinating. I think that a museum exhibition displaying the history of their mythology is absolutely hilarious and wonderful. They really went all out to keep the "science" of dragons in focus. I loved how they used taxidermy creatures and dinosaur fossils to explain how dragons evolved in structure and became hybrids. You could tell the museum folks really had fun organizing this thing. I can't even begin to explain the magic effect of green glass chunks being lit from beneath a way to represent treasure. Pure

Jill: The key thing to remember when taking in this exhibit is that this is a museum, people! How awesome is it that an institution devoted to facts decided to take on a subject that has no scientific roots whatsoever? But somehow, through strange animal specimens, documents, etchings (containing stories of dragons both protecting and fighting civilizations), cultural artifacts, statues, paintings, and a giant golden Catholic thingy-thing, they managed to convince us that dragons are a part of science. They might not exist, but they have definitely been thought about scientifically for



...And Matthew McConaughey is Nowhere To Be Found | The Reign of Fire star is just about the only thing missing from Dragons. Between Science and Riction PHOTO SUPPLIED

centuries

Mandy: "Catholic thingy-thing"? Perfect. But yes, you're right: it's kind of incredible to see how important a role this made-up creature has played in so many different cultures, and how varied that role has been. So much Christian religious lore incorporates dragons as I physical manifestation of the Devil, whereas traditional Chinese culture uses the dragon in a positive way, as a symbol of seasonal renewal and power. Also, it was interesting that a huge number of the dragon themed objects and artifacts on display are on loan from museums in Montreal and France. The French love dragons so much!

Jill: Yeah, we noticed that instantly. Some highlights for me were the giant rainbow-sequined Chinese headdress, the gila monster preserved in an alcohol-filled jar, and the Satsuma-style bowls and plates with their crazy amount of detail. My absolute favourite was probably one of the set-ups meant for kids: the hybrids. These were little sculpture-like toys in the shape of popular animal's parts: a zebra body, giraffe's legs, a fish tail, a snake head, et cetera. You could play with them and make really strange-looking hybrids that mimicked the way different cultures developed the dragons' appearance. I loved how the museum had

that. The hybrid sculpture-toys got my head spinning.

Mandy: You seriously loved that table. It was great, though, not just because it was fun and ridiculous, but because it also let kids physically construct their own creatures. That seemed so smart to me: I think many of them understood the whole hybrid idea much better once they'd made their own. There were also a lot of gorgeous historical objects to see; I adored the Chinese furniture from the Qing dynasty, which dated from around the end of the 19th century. They were these intense carved wooden chairs and a love seat that had dragon features and intricate forms woven in all over the structure of the body—so insane.

Jill: I did seriously love that table! And you seriously loved those dragon chairs! This exhibit really did have something for everyone. I am sure someone out there would be more than interested in that gross dried skate they had. We will probably be back a couple more times over the duration of the summer exhibit (even though we are already repeat offenders) After all, who doesn't like dragons?

Dragons: Between Science and Fiction will be on display at the Royal Alberta Museum until September 14.



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AGNES RUGERA GALLERY 12310 JASPER AVE. Until AUG 30: "Summer Show" A selection of artists' artwork from all over Canada. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm.

A.J. OTTEWELL ARTS CENTRE 590 BROADMOOR BLVD.

SHERWOOD PARK, 449-4443 Info: Sonja, 922-3779.
ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA ENTERPRISE SQUARE.

#100, 10230 JASPER AVE., 422-6223 Until Aug 10: "Red Tile: First Nations Art in the Late 20th Century" & "Drawn

ARTSHAB STUDIO GALLERY 3RD FL. 10217-106 ST.

CABINET GALLERY NOKOMIS CLOTHING, 10318-82 AVE. Info: www.instituteparachute.ca.
CENTRE D'ARTS VISUELS DE L'ALBERTA 9103-95

AVE., 461-3427 Until JULY 16: Multimedia-therned exibit featuring Madeleine Bellmond's fabric collages and acrylics, Ute Reider's watercolors and acrylics, Denise Parent's

ISTL BERGSTROM'S RED GALLERY 9621-82 AVE.

DOUGLAS UDELL GALLERY 10332-124 ST., 488-4445

ELECTRUM DESIGN STUDIO 12419 STONY PLAIN RD.

EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY MAIN FLOOR ATRIUM. ENTERPRISE SQUARE, 10230 JASPER AVE. Hours: Daily 7 am-11 pm. Info: www.extension.ualberta.ca. FAB GALLERY 1-7 FINE ARTS GUILDING, U OF A CAMPUS

Hours: Tues-Fin 10 am-5 pm, Sat 2-5 pm.
FRINGE GALLERY 10516 WHYTE AVE., 432-0240 Until
JULY 30; "A Thousand Places" photography by Naomi
Marathalingam. Info: www.paintspot.ca.

GALLERY AT MILNER STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY, TO

CHURCHILL SQUARE Into: 496-7030.

HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY 3RD FL., 10215-112 ST., 426-4180 Until JULY 19: 20th Annual Members' Show. Info: www.

30HNSON GALLERY 7711-85 ST., 465-6171 Edmonton oil painters working in-studio throughout the season. Artists featured include Susan Abma, Susan Box, Shairi Honey, David Brooks, Margaret Klappstein, Tracy Mardon, Anne McCormick, and Gindy Revell. Info: susanabma.tom. LATITUDE 53 10248-106 ST., 423-5353 Until JULY 12: "Mind of a City" by Judy Cheung, and "Fancy" by Corissa O'Donnell. Hours: Tue-Fri 10 am-6 pm, Sat 12-5 pm. Info: www.

latitude53.org.
NINA HAGGERTY CENTRE 9704-111 AVE., 474-7611 Studio hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-2 pm. Gallery hours: Mon, Wed & Fri 9:30 am-2:30 pm, Tue & Thu 9:30 am-4 pm & 6-8 pm. Info:

NORTH EDMONTON SCULPTURE WORKSHOP 10546-115 57., 482-2685 Daytime viewing by appointment: 482-2685 OUT OF THE FIRE STUDIO 12214 JASPER AVE., 378-0240

PETER ROBERTSON GALLERY 10183-112 ST., 455-7479 Until JULY 10: Linda Lindemann. Hours: Tue-Sat 10 am-5:30

pm. mio. www.picuei songaueizy.com. PORTAL GALLERY #300, 9414-915T, 702-7522 Until SEP 12: Marcie Rohr. Reception AUG 12. 7pm-10pm. Hours: Tue-Fri 12-8 pm, Sat 12-7 pm. Info: www.theportalgallery.com. SCOTT GALLERY 10411-124 ST., 488-3619 Hours: Tues-Sat 10

SCULPTURE STUDIO & GALLERY SHERWOOD PARK, 662-4160 Figurative and abstract sculpture by Horst D. Info:

SELFRIDGE POTTERY STUDIO 9844-88 AVE., 439-9296 Hours: 11 am-5 pm. Info: www.selfridgeceramicarLca SNAP GALLERY SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ALBERTA PRINT ARTISTS 10309-97 ST., 423-1492 Hours: Tue-Sat 12-5 pm. Info:

STUDIO GALLERY 11 PERRON ST., ST. ALBERT, 460-5993 Hours: Thu 12-8 pm. Fri 10 am-6 pm, Sat 10 am-5 pm. VAAA GALLERY VISUAL ARTS ALBERTA ASSOCIATION 3RD FL., 10215-112 ST., 421-1731 Hours: Mon-Fri 10-4 pm, Sat

WEST END GALLERY 12308 JASPER AVE., 488-4892 Hours: Tue-Sat 10 am-5 pm. Info: www.westendgalleryltd.com. WORKS GALLERY #200, 10225-100 AVE., 426-2122 Hours: Mon-Fri 12-5 pm. Info: www.theworks.ab.ca. 20CALO 10826-95 ST., 428-0754 International crafts

artwork, and tropical flowers. Hours: Mon-Wed & Fri 10-6

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MHISÉE HÉRITAGE #5 ST. ANNE ST., ST. ALBERT, 459-1528 Hours: Mon-Sat, 10 am-5 pm; & Sun, 1-5 pm. Admission by

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA 8555 ROPER RD., 427-1750 Until SEP 6, "Les Francophones en Alberta: Courage et Détermination" tells the history of Francophones in Alberta through archival records. Hours: Tues-Sat 9am—

ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM 12845-102 AVE., 453-9100

ST., SHERWOOD PARK, 476-8189 Hours: Mon-Fri 10 am-4 pm.

Info: www.strathconacounty.museum.ca.
TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE 1271-142 ST., 451-3344 Permanent Exhibits include The Body Fantastic, Mystery Avenue,
The Greens' House, Space Place, Discoveryland, and DinoDen in the Explorer Gallery. Syncrude Science Stage features sci-ence demos, Cryogenics, Electricity, and What Puts The Fizz

FEATS FESTIVAL OF DANCE 10330 IIII AVE. TRANSALTA ARTS BARNS Until JULY 13. Various locations and events.

RODA DE CAPOEIRA SATURDAYS, 1-2 PM, CAPOEIRA ACADEMY, 10540 JASPER AVE., 709-3500 A free performance invented by African slaves. Info: www.capoeiraedmonton.ca.

THEATRE

A ROCKY NIGHT FOR HIS NIBS JULY 10-26 TUE-SAT, 7:30 PM NIGHTLY. MATINEE SAT AT 2 PM. VARSCONA THEATRE. \$22 evenings. Reservations 433-3399, or TIX on the Square, 420-1757, www.tixonthesquare.ca

RIVER CITY SHAKES PEARE FESTIVAL UNTIL JULY 20, 8 PM HIGHTLY TUES-SUN. MATINES SAT & SUN AT 2 PM. HAWRELAK PARK. Tix on the Square, www.tixonthesquare.

RAPID FIRE THEATRE EVERY FRI & SAT, 11 PM. VARSCONA THEATRE, 10329-83 AVE., 448-0695 TheatreSports Fridays, Chimprov Saturdays. \$10 at the door, Info: www.rapid-

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MY MESSY BEDROOM JOSEY VOGELS
SPANKING EXPERT LADY
GREEN SAYS EVEN MENSA
MEMBERS CAN USE SOME
EDUCATION IN S&M

"There are a lot of pervs in Mensa," Lady Green tells me over fries and a grilled cheese at a diner in downtown Toronto.

The kinky sex educator and founder of the kinky publisher Greenery Press was in town from San Francisco to speak at a leather conference. She was telling me about the A Workbook for Nervous Beginners) and Catherine A Liszt (The Ethical Slut: A Guide to Infinite Sexual Possibilities, which she co-authored with Dossie Easton).

A self-described "writer, perv, pain slut, and educator who has been fan tasizing about S/M since she was too little to wrap her hand around a whip handle," Hardy comes across more soccer mom than kink Queen. But while most four-year-olds are crying over the scary clowns at the circus, Hardy remembers fantasizing about what it would be like to have the Strong Man spank her. Not surprisingly, while she's happy to teach workshops on all aspects of kink, spanking is her "core thing."

What's to learn, you may well ask? Well, before you toss your honey over your knee, grab the hairbrush and start whacking, there are imporlives without buying into the lifestyle. "Its a shame, in one way," she says. "That while we have made it more acceptable, safer, and easier to be kinky, we have created a whole kink iconography—the leather, latex and studs thing—that a lot of people don't like and don't feel comfortable with."

But even stud- and, latex-less. Hardy insists there are ways to cross that psychological boundary and get kinky. Hardy suggests a "yes/no/maybe" exercise for couples wanting to expand their sexual horizons "Together, write down every sexual activity you've heard of," she says, "whether it sounds fun or gross or whatever. No censorship. Then using a different coloured pen, each of you marks a "Y." N." or M" beside each item on the list indicating your comfort level with each activity."



"IF YOU WANT TO PLAY WITH PAIN," LADY GREEN SAYS, "AND WANT TO GO TO THE HAPPY PLACE INSTEAD OF THE 'GODDAMN THIS HURTS WHY DOESN'T IT STOP' PLACE, THERE ARE TECHNIQUES YOU CAN LEARN."

time her mom came to see her give an S/M 101 talk to a Mensa group.

It seemed a little odd. The Mensa part, that is. Though Ms. Green-known to her two kids as Mom and to her friends and colleagues as Janet Hardy—did admit that she found it a little tough to focus on telling the smartypants folk how to give a good spanking with Mom in the audience. "She's a therapist and wanted to know what I did," says Hardy.

And the Mensa people? "Anytime you get people who don't fit into the mainstream, you're going to get a higher than average percentage of people who are into kink," she explains. "You tend to see a lot of kinky people in the high-tech professions, or in professions that involve a lot of abstract thinking. They need a way to reconnect to their bodies."

Safe to say, you don't want to be drifting off while someone is caning your bare ass. "You have to be present physically whether you're topping or bottoming," explains Hardy, who has authored several kinky titles as both Lady Green (The Compleat Spanker and The Sexually Dominant Woman:

P. FIFTYONE
person

tant things, like nerves and kidneys, to consider. "If you want to play with pain and want to go to the happy place instead of the 'Goddamn this hurts why doesn't it stop' place, there are techniques you can learn." Hardy explains. Like breathing. Borrowing from yoga and Lemans, Hardy teaches her students conscious breathing and relaxation techniques that help let the pain flow through you.

And lest you think the only way to introduce kinky sex into your life is to buy a leather hood for your honey and lead him around a party on a collar and chain, Hardy assures me that even the most vanilla couples can up the kink factor in their sex

Now you've got a game plan. "Yes"es are a go, "maybe"s get discussed and "no"s get crossed off the list.

For a lot of people, tying their partner's hands to the bed with the bathrobe sash is as far as they're ever gonna go and that's great. Hardy says. If you still don't know where to start, she suggests one simple tool: a blindfold. "It's a safe way to experiment with one partner having more power than the other cause one can see and one can't," she explains. "And it's an intensifier. You're taking away one sense so that you can feel the others more acutely. Plus, if you start to feel overwhelmed, you just push it up."





SEX - ADVICE 11,196 words

Kinksters At An Exhibition



SAVAGE LOVE DAN SAVAGE
IS THERE A NAME FOR PERVY
GUYS LIKE ME, WHO WANT
A WOMAN TO WATCH THEM
MASTURBATE?

I am a heterosexual male in my 20s, and I need some help putting a label on my kink/fetish. I usually don't care much for labels in any aspect of life, but I'm hoping that knowing what to call this may help me find others who share the same interest: I love it when a woman watches me masturbate. She doesn't have to touch me at all, take off her own clothes, or play with herself. However, she has to enjoy watching me for me to enjoy performing. I have no interest in "flashing" or otherwise imposing myself on someone who doesn't want to watch. Also, I don't want to show just anyone; I just enjoy being watched by a woman

I've seen some CFNM porn, but that often seems to be more about humiliation, which I'm not interested in at all. Wanting A Named Kink

If you're looking for a label, WANK, what's wrong with "exhibitionist"? It's a fine, serviceable term, and an honourable sexual pursuit-provided, of course, that you exhibit yourself exclusively to women who wish to take in your exhibition. A flasher may be the first thing that pops to mind when people hear the term "exhibitionist," WANK, but while all flashers are exhibitionists, it doesn't follow that all exhibitionists are flashers. Perhaps you could start a movement to reclaim "exhibitionism" from the creeps?

As for CFNM porn—that's "clothed female, naked male"—most of it features strong subtexts (or domtexts) of humiliation, even seemingly vanilla-ish iterations, but that's unavoidable. CFNM upends all the usual gender power dynamics: The man is naked and vulnerable and subject to the woman's gaze, the woman is clothed and in control and assessing the man. Perhaps the role that dom/

sub dynamics play in your turn-on is so subtle, WANK, that you honestly believe humiliation has nothing to do with it. But it's in there.

I'm a gay man who never experimented with girls when I was younger. I've been in a relationship for a little over a year now, and it's great. We have an "openenough" relationship that allows for some exploration of our sexuality with other people and we for this, but I'm starting to think women just aren't into watching a man get naked and jack off.

How do I ask my boyfriend to get involved in this kink? And how do I find a woman who is into watching?

Horny And Clothed In Minneapolis

Make some lesbian friends, HA-CIM.

Lots of dykes watch gay male porn, a phenomenon I would unpack

cared about him it wouldn't make a difference. What do you think? Didn't Know I Was Dating Herpes Boy

What do I think? Honestly, DKIWD-HB? I think you're an idiot.

You met up with a strange guy for a nearly anonymous three-way that some other guy set up over Craigslist, and it turns out that this strange man you met—your now-boyfriend—has a rather common sexually trans-

WHILE ALL FLASHERS ARE EXHIBITIONISTS, IT DOESN'T FOLLOW THAT ALL EXHIBITIONISTS ARE FLASHERS. PERHAPS YOU COULD START A MOVEMENT TO RECLAIM "EXHIBITIONISM" FROM THE CREEPS?

talk openly about it.

The only thing is, I don't know how to tell him about this fetish I've developed for CFNM. I don't want to have sex with a woman, but I really want to find one who wants to stay fully clothed while watching me masturbate. I also have a fantasy for a woman to watch me have sex with my BF or another man. Attempts to find a woman via various websites have so far been unfruitful. I want to blame the prudes in Minneapolis

in this space if, um, I had the faintest idea what was up with that. (Ladies? What is up with that?) And on more than one occasion, lesbian pals have asked me and my boyfriend to put on a live sex show for 'em. They apparently wanted to see what gay sex looked like without the bad lighting, the waxed eyebrows, and the faked chemistry. Equal parts modesty and performance anxiety have sadly prevented my boyfriend and me from obliging our lesbian pals. But you, clearly, could do better by your lesbian buddies.

And how do you ask the boyfriend to go there with you? Just like any smart kinkster asks a partner to indulge, or consider indulging, his kink, HACIM: with a smile and a sense of humour. Kinks should always be presented as perks, as something that makes you a more intersting and fun sex partner, not as something that makes you a defective or problematic sex partner. And if your boyfriend isn't willing to go there, HACIM, it doesn't sound like you'll have much trouble getting his permission to go there on your own.

My boyfriend and I met sleazy about six weeks ago when a guy I met on Craigslist took me over to my then-future boyfriend's house for a three-way. During the three-way, my then-future boyfriend struggled with a condom and said that they "choked" him. Then he asked if he could stick it in me without a condom. He stated that he had had a vasectomy and then asked me if I had any STIs. I said that I didn't and he said that he didn't either.

Long story short: we hit it off and thus began a relationship. After a month of blissful, unprotected sex, my boyfriend told me that he has herpes! He said that he got it a long time ago at his bachelor party. I want to dump the motherfucker, but he's telling me that he hasn't had an outbreak in three years and that if I really mitted infection. A thinking person who met someone under those circumstances would be shocked to discover that her now-boyfriend didn't have hernes.

Even though you may have already had herpes when you met this guy (you could've been exposed long ago and just not shown any symptoms to date), you still have a legit complaint. But it's not about the STI issue, DKIWDHB, it's about the lying A man who's selfish enough to lie to a woman about his health-even a woman he's just met and suspects he may never meet again-in order to get out of wearing a condom isn't going to draw the line at that lie. He'll lie to you about other stuff-like, you know, vasectomies that he may or may not have had. You're worried about the herpes when you should probably be worried about the most common STI of all: pregnancy.

My girlfriend and I haven't had anything resembling sex in months. But anytime I bring it up, she says she doesn't like to discuss it and that she'd rather "surprise" me with it. That apparently feels more natural, and the mere discussion of sex is a dead turnoff.

What The Fuck?

Whatever the fuck is going on here, WTF, and whatever the fuck I tell you to do, I'll get shitloads of mail—all from readers with no more information to work with than I have—explaining how this is all your fault. Because, you see, you're the man and whenever a couple's ser life goes off the rails, it is always the man's fault. (That's what makes gay relationships so egalitarian.) But for what it's worth—and it ain't worth much—here's my advice: "surprise her by moving out.

Download the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at www.thestranger.com/savage mail@savagelove.net



ASTROLOGY - JULY 10 TO 16 - BY THE KID

CRUISIN' THE COSMOS

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20)

From the man who brought you such classics as "is not life a hundred times too short for us to bore ourselves." "Stare into the abyss too long and it begins to stare back," and that family fave "God is dead," we're proud to present this week's #I Nietzsche hit." Flight not monsters lest ye become a monster yourself!"

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 19)

The cosmos is a l'Il concerned lately 'cause you've been actin' wa-a-ay too conservative. Where's that crazy, madcap, kooky kid we once knew who did whatever the heck they wanted to do? Show the universe you haven't started to slip—no matter what you feel like doin' this week, let' er rip!

TAURUS (APRIL 20 - MAY 20)

"Do as I say, not as I do" has special implications this week for you. Although at times everyone's a hypocrite, bein' one this week'll land you in a bucket o' brown stuff. Take special care to be honest beyond compare, or you'll likely get lured into the dragon's fair!

GEMINI (MAY ZI - JUNE ZO)

in don't take too long for you Geminis to get bored and as that feelin' grows, it can't be ignored. Now, normally it's easy for you simply to switch its something new, but this time there'll be trouble if that's what you do. Oh well. That you need change is just a fact, so you might as well go ahead 'n' act!

CANCER (JUNE 21 - JULY 22)

"You can't cheat an honest man" and "Nothin' in life is free" are two things the Devil don't want you to see. Otherwise, you wouldn't be so quick to act when he asks you to sign his lift pact. Unless you're tookin't to live in a take of fire, expect to work for what you desire!

LEO (JULY 23 - AUGUST 22)

What are the first four letters in the word harmony? That's night. 'harm' Well, that's what too much harmony'll do to you this week. You fire signs thrive on the friction and heat created when opposites meet. No matter how easy your lot, this week, you gotta stir up the pot!

VIRGO (AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22)

Lookin' for love In easy to do—the trick's gettin' love to look for you. Well, humans habitually hanker after what they can't have, so it ain't such a bad idea to up 'n' say 'see ya." Attraction works when you don't push, you pull—so play hard to get, but be available!

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22)

if you wanna win the comin' fight and not go out like Custer, this week you've gotta stockpile all the energy that you can muster. Take time by yourself to cook up plots 'n' plans, and get as much rest as you possibly can. Then when you step into the ring, you'll be so prepared you

won't worry 'bout a thing!

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21)

You're tike a starvin' guy in a vegetable garden. if you didn't know how to use the bounty before you, you'd slowly starve thinkin' there weren't nothin' you could do. Whether you know it or not, right now, you could feed, 'cause under your nose you've got all you need!

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER ZZ - DECEMBER ZI)

This weekend you'll discover the secret of power and wealth, take what you want whether by broad daylight or steatth. Now don't get all hung, up on it and think it's a sin 'cause it's a Danwinian world, baby—someone's gotta win. Why not do what you gotta do to make sure it's you?

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 27 – JANUARY 19) Success gives you a certain cachet, and folks'll

Success gives you a certain cachet, and folks'll actually listen to what you have to say. Use your podium to tell the masses that they won't get anywhere tryin' to kick each other's asses. Show 'em what you learned on Sessine Street—cooperation's a strategy you just can't beat!

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18)

Most folks are happy just liu change their wardrobe or get a new 'do, but not you. You ain't satisfied till everything old has died, been buried and replaced. Don't worry. Some people'il tell you'it's a sharmeful waste, but they just don't understand you're simply redefinin' your taste!









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MORE RANDOM WORDS IN A MESH

JONESIN' CROSSWORD BY MATT JONES @2008 Jonesin' Crosswords (editor@ionesincrosswords.com)

11971 album that features "Baba O'Riley" 9 Outcast

15 Overly enthusiastic response 16 Reunion attendees

17 How some tests are graded

18 The Sunflower State 19 __ Video (Randal's place of employment

in "Clerks")

20 Pissing off slightly

22 Lindsay who tied with herself for a Worst

Actress Razzie by playing two roles

25 Spock's feature

26 Trigonometry curve

30 Move slyly

31 One who'll keep you in stitches 32 Dennis Quaid remake of a 1950 film noir

thriller

33 Fireworks that shoot "stars" 37 Philip Seymour Hoffman title role of

2005

40 How some things are played or done 41 Find the fountain of youth, 20 to speak

45 It's been replaced on food labels by the Reference Daily Intake: abbr.

46 Remove a coupon the quick way

47 Really fun time

51 Like overcooked pasta

53 Prof. Higgins, to Eliza Doolittle, in "My

Fair Lady 54 #5 hit for Edwin McCain in 1998

55 Go after, like with a housefly

57 Prohibition

58 One way to serve cafe

61 Monks, sometimes

65 Sleeping sickness-carrying fly

66 Circus act that makes people look up

67 Like one of two evils

68 One who quarantines

1 Loops' alternatives, in fingerprinting 2 Muppets man

3 City in northeast 18-across

4"__Punk!" (1998 Matthew Lillard movie)

5 Sch. located in Greenwich Village li Suffix after mountain or profit

7 "The Happy Hooker" author Hollander

8 Something to "Blame It On," in a Milli

Vanilli song

9 Resident of 43-down

10 Parsons with a Project 11 Ladder parts

12 Texts at the keyboard

13 Top-ranked tennis player Ivanovic

14 __ Dark Materials (Philip Pullman trilogy that includes "The Golden Compass")

21 McDonald's Corporation mogul Ray 23 Neville who sometimes sings like

24 Boy band that reunited in 2008 with the album "Summertime," for short

27 Just sitting there

28 Liam Gallagher's brother

29 Like some targets

34 Designation for some dinosaurs 35 Dark clouds

36 Flashlight battery, perhaps

37 Key in a computer "three-finger salute" 38 Car make with a four-ringed logo

39 Buggy, in Bristol 4750

48 Even though

43 City on the Arabian Sea

44 Offer from a suggestive sort

49 Italian eatery at the mall

50 Less relaxed

52 Tests for high school jrs.

56 Full of smarts

58 Hartsfield-Jackson airport code

59 Take advantage of

60 Actor Live of "You Can't Do That on

Television*

62 In the past 63 Sports league that awards the Conn

Smythe Trophy

64 Carrier that folded into American in 2001







On Mondays, I do the really sucks."

"Oh, you like that? It's the new Joni Mitchell CD. We sell it here. I'll get you a copy.

INTERSECTIONS · PHOTOS OF OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS



t6g

FAVA members' work plays on the walls of a nearby building as part of *Silent Street Screen* outside The Artery on Jasper Ave on Friday, June 27. PHOTO BY IAN JACKSON

FIRST PERSON · EDMONTON STORIES · BY JUSTIN LANGILLE | 623 words

Teaching The Teacher A DEPARTING INSTRUCTOR IN THE AWASIS PROGRAM REFLECTS ON WHAT HE LEARNED

I pulled my bike into the school's vacant parking lot. I saw no signs of life. School had been out for a week, and the silence of the Prince Charles Elementary School playground was deafening.

I had come back to find my Adidas fleece, the one with armpit vents that I would wear on cold morning rides to work. If this were any of my other former workplaces—the cafes where I washed dishes during university, or the brewery where I used to work night shifts—I probably would have left the jacket. However, I needed to make one last visit to the school before I left town.

My year-and-a-half-long stint as a teacher-assistant with Edmonton Public Schools was over, leaving me with free time to rest and reflect. As I walked into the empty school, the absence of people was overwhelming. Turning the corner, I walked down the main hall to the classroom where I spent my working hours reading Robert Munsch books and putting together puzzles with kids.

Standing in Room 2, I felt that the old educator's adage—"I didn't teach the kids, they taught me"—was really true.

While teaching Cree and Metis kids at Prince Charles, I was invited into a community that gave me a unique chance to learn about aboriginal life in Canada. The Awasis Program ("awasis" being the Cree word for "child") is an alternative curriculum that integrates aboriginal teachings

into every subject. The kids introduced me to elements of Canadian culture that I had never known—experiences that I could never understand by reading university-level native studies textbooks. Eating warm bannock with butter and stew at a feast is infinitely better than reading about it

My fondest memories take place in the mornings when we smudged with sweetgrass smoke. This is a beautiful and important ritual of cleansing and purification, and it required a healthy dose of humility. It takes a great deal of patience and understanding to stand still for over five minutes with a group of 19 six year-olds.

I was also amazed to see how traditional cultures were maintained amid the challenges of city life and the distractions of contemporary society. The "at-risk" kids with turnultuous home lives were often the strongest dancers in powwow groups. Fiddle players and jiggers were eager to learn new songs, despite distractions from unruly peers. They were also especially charismatic when they performed in public throughout the city.

At the end of the day, though, the preservation of rich cultural tradi-

tions coexisted alongside the staples of everyday childhood life.

I was regaled with stories of tireless Halo expertise, abbreviated breakdowns of the history of Venom, and plans to chill at West Edmonton Mall's Rock 'n' Ride on the weekend. After hearing the kids go on an on about it, I'm thinking the Transformers movie will probably go down in history as the Most Important Cultural Event Ever. Hanging out with the older kids was always a Q&A session filled with telltale signs of adolescence: "Did you know that she's going out with that guy?" "Do you listen to Flo Rida?" And, most importantly: "Why don't you drive a

In Room 2, my fleece sweater was sitting on top of a stack of boxes filled with years of teaching ephemera. I grabbed it quickly, flinging an errant rubber snake down from the boxes to land on my face. I put the snake away and turned to leave.

My time at Prince Charles was joyful and wild. The kids were imbued with such a sense of pride and freedom that they renewed my own drive to chase my dreams and laugh boldly in the face of the most daunting adversities.



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